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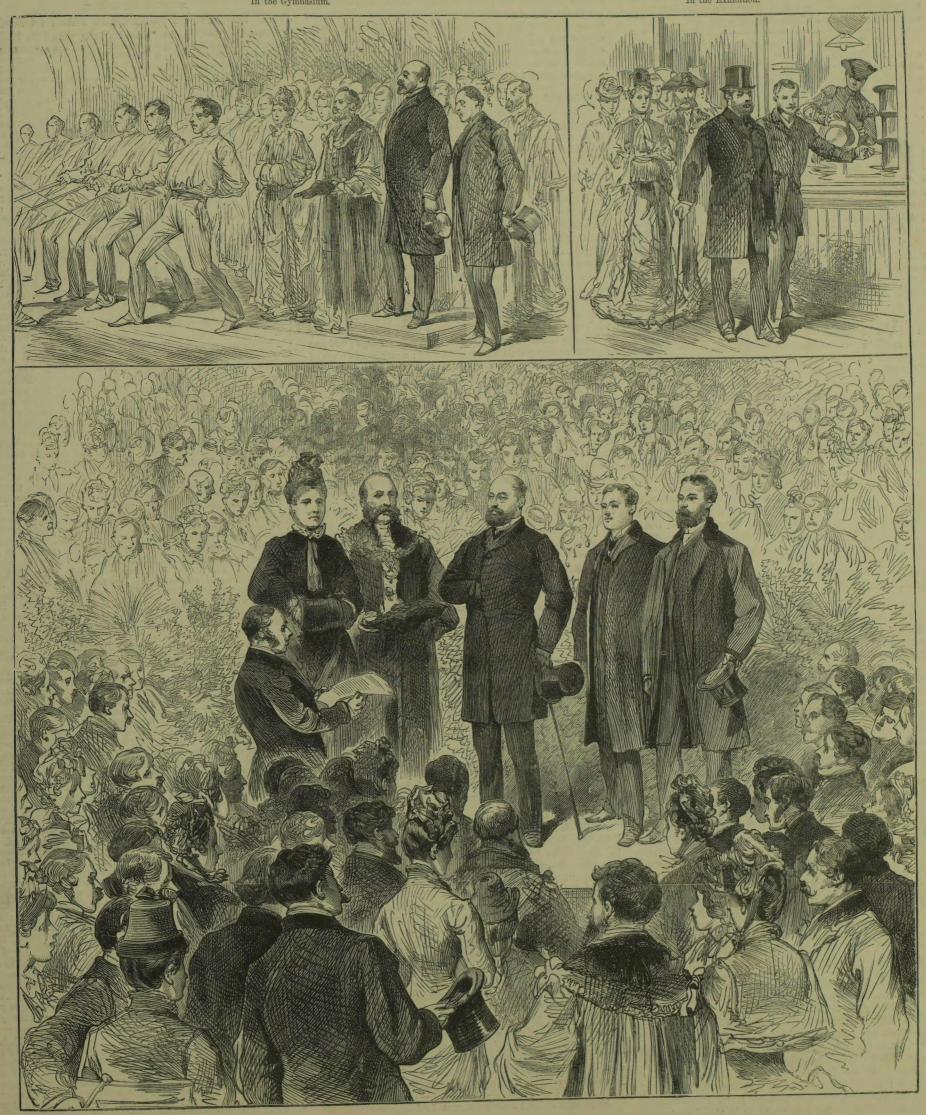
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1887.

TWO SIXPENCE.

BY POST, 63D.

In the Gymnasium.

In the Exhibition.



THE PRINCE OF WALES OPENING THE APPRENTICES' EXHIBITION AT THE PEOPLE'S PALACE: READING THE ADDRESS IN THE QUEEN'S HALL.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

In all middle-class households, where there are boys, the subject which to-day is spoken of above all others is what they call for short-but certainly neither for "love" nor for "euphony"-their "exams." The youth of England are perpetually going in for competitive examinations, and getting "plucked," or "spun," or "floored"; and, as there are generally about a hundred candidates to ten vacancies, this is not much to be wondered at. In the old days at sea, the last man up the rigging, and the last man down on the deck, was always flogged to encourage the rest to activity. It was urged by the few humanitarians who existed at that epoch that, since somebody must be last, the punishment was rather unfair; but, after all, there were only two sufferers; in the case of each "exam." there are ninety. For my part, I feel for these poor lads immensely. I can, of course, do nothing for them; but the following incident—though taken from the records of crime-cannot fail to give them at least a momentary satisfaction. It is a curious account enough of how, when competitive examinations first began, an examiner himself was "floored" instead of the candidate.

In 1837, Mr. Charles Wadham Wyndham Penruddock went up to Apcthecaries' Hall for his professional ordeal. His strong point was anatomy, yet his four examiners would confine their questions to chemistry and other matters whereof he knew much less, which must, no doubt, have been very annoying to him. One, Mr. Hardy, was especially severe upon him about therapeutics. is a good nag, but she will bolt," and at last the poor wretch inquired, "How the devil can I answer you, if you badger me so?" This retort was not in the programme at all, and evoked some very rebukeful language; whereupon Mr. Charles Wadham Wyndham Penruddock, with the apparently irrelevant observation, that, "He was of a good family in the West of England," knocked his examiner down. I am sorry to say he did it with a life-preserver [which, "along with a small bottle of gin," he happened to have in his pocket]. For this, he was tried at the Old Bailey for "an attempt to maim and disable." However, being found to have "an excellent character for humanity "-"the badgering" perhaps being also taken into account—he was only convicted of a common assault, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

Everyone is asking who the book-loving lawyer alluded to in the pleasant article on "Literary Voluptuaries" in Blackwood of this month may be; and though I think I am in a position to answer the question, I am not going to do so. The writer of the paper says the gentleman is "alive and sensitive"; but, if he is the man I take him for, he is also hasty and athletic. 'I have not a word to say in depreciation of the charming picture that has been drawn of him. Many a time have I sat at his hospitable board, and afterwards enjoyed in his noble library the choice cigars that he never touches himself. It is hardly necessary to enlarge upon the virtues of any man who, being a non-smoker, yet provides tobacco for his friends. Good nature can no further go. Still-the writer who draws that graphic picture of my host and friend omits a touch which, although in no degree derogating from his character as a book-lover, seems to me essential to it. The true bibliomaniac ought, as is well known, to have three copies of every volume: one to gloat upon on its shelf, one to take in the hand and read, and one to lend. It is in this last act—that of lending a book—or rather, in the painful (though not inextricable) position of being asked to lend one, that this literary voluptuary should have been described.

A more liberal host does not exist. The best viands, the finest wines are always at his friends' disposal. I have reason to believe that an application for a cheque would meet with the most cheerful assent; while his most costly books are at the service of even the careless guest who smokes a cigarette as he turns over the leaves. The expression of the host's countenance is, it is true, itself a folio, as he watches that act of sacrilege; but he permits it. His books, however, are only "to be consumed on the premises." Where he draws the line, hard and fast, is at lending them. He has a little room, apart from his library, in which are two or three hundred block-bookswooden effigies meant to supply in the shelves the place of volumes he has loaned. On the backs are (supposed to be) written the names of the borrowers. These dummies always remind me of the collection of ear-trumpets collected by the talkative deaf lady, who never listened to anything anyone had to say to her. There is only one wooden volume on his shelves, and I doubt whether even that is a bona-fide substitute. It should be entitled "The shocking example," for I notice when there is any talk of borrowing books, the proprietor enlarges upon the value of the missing work, and bewails the carelessness or knavery of the person who, having borrowed it, died suddenly, and left behind him no instructions for its return. When he adds that, man being mortal, this same wrong may be done to him (the speaker) any day, in the case of any book, even though a person might have the most honest intentions of returning it, the idea of borrowing generally fades away in the visitor's breast; or, if it has taken shape, the application is not renewed.

As a rule I have little sympathy with burglars. They alarm me. But there is good (people say) in everybody. There was certainly good in the man who broke into the Great Western Railway Station at West Drayton, last week, and took—much less than he might have taken. The case is, I believe, unprecedented. "The drawer," said the prisoner, in his defence, "from which I abstracted the gold had much gold in it, but I only took_what I absolutely wanted. I took it from a great and powerful company, who would never feel the loss of it." (Yet, unfortunately, they missed it.) "Though there is dishonour attaching to my conduct, there is, also, I venture to think, a certain amount of honour too. I throw myself on the mercy of the Court, and hope I shall be done unto as I have done to others." The Judge seems to have so far followed

the course thus suggested to him as to give the prisoner, not all he might have given him, but only some of it; and in my opinion he might have been even still more lenient. With a burglar of this sort one could get on reasonably enough. In leaving out one's plate-basket on the landing, as usual, to prevent his coming up-stairs, one would feel confident that only so much would be taken as he "absolutely wanted." The number of spoons and forks would depend upon the extent of his own family circle.

A lady at Birmingham has got into trouble for using her baby as a missile weapon. It has been descanted upon as an unparalleled proceeding, as though no woman had ever "thrown her baby" at anyone before. Upon consideration, however, this will be admitted to be not an uncommon practice. The sex, indeed, are given to throw—or "cast up," as it is less gracefully termed—their relatives at other people. Who that has married a widow has not had her first husband thrown at him again and again? I have a distinct recollection—as one of the best of boys—of having been thrown by my mother many times at my brothers and sisters. Mr. Corney Grain, speaking delicately of the dangers of handling a baby, compares it with a poached egg. To throw eggs at people is common enough; but poached eggs?—— I have only heard of the Birmingham incident fragmentarily. I wonder what really happened not only to the baby, but to its opponent!

A learned professor has been writing a book upon the Art of Conversation-a curious source, indeed, for such a work to proceed from-but then he is Irish, which may account for it. Professors in Ireland may be very agreeable company, though Planché tells us that the wit of the lower orders there is monstrously exaggerated, and offered to back a single stand of London hansom cabmen for repartee against all the cardrivers in Dublin. There are things, however, in our author's book beside his profession which makes me suspicious of his capability to teach us how to talk. He mentions, for example, by way of complaint, that ladies in Dublin, "unless of the highest classes," do not talk politics. Surely politics is the dullest subject of conversation even among men (unless, indeed, they quarrel over it), and in women's lips is unbecoming, indeed. If conversation is not monologue (for which it is often mistaken) it is still less discord. A discussion on great principles may, of course, be interesting enough; but the question whether Boodle or Foodle is to govern the country-which is what political talk generally concerns itself with—is scarcely a topic to be encouraged. Again, the Professor says: "If you find the company dull, blame yourself": a monstrous piece of mock modesty. This is on a par with the foolish praise given to those who "lift the conversation." What sort of conversation must that be which wants lifting?

If, instead of attempting to teach an art which is not, in fact, communicable to others, our Professor would tell us how to put a stop to those who impede conversation—the Bores he would indeed deserve well of his fellow-creatures. I have only known one man who could do this neatly. I saw him do it to Admiral Nipper at his own table. Everyone knows the Admiral-or, rather, did know him, for he has gone aloft. He was called the teredo navalis, from his tremendous powers of boredom; at sea, where people could not get away from him, he killed many a fellow-passenger, no doubt; and at his hospitable board, where he had things almost as much his own way, he was terrible indeed. He had one story which, like those in "The Arabian Nights," could positively not be told in a single evening. Never shall I forget the occasion when, having proceeded with it for more than an hour, it was taken out of his lips by an audacious guest, stripped of its redundancies in two minutes, and-sharpened up to the nicest point, but not beyond it-was returned gracefully to the gallant seaman for conclusion. That benefactor of his species has also left us, doubtless "for good." The mention of him "reminds me," as the Admiral used to say, "of an anecdote." Walking with me one day by some gigantic gasworks, we talked of Tennyson. He spoke of his marvellous gift for clothing even a common-place matter in the garb of poetry; whereupon I remarked that those gasometers would puzzle him. "Not at all," was the reply, "he has not only immortalised them in verse, but described their financial

And mellow metres more than cent, by cent."

To apply on the instant the treasure of the mind, with wit, to the passing topic is, indeed, the very perfection of the "art of conversation."

Under the not very attractive title of "Retrenchment" a book has just been published with some sensible suggestions in it. One, by Mr. Shirley, M.P., I particularly admire, because it is a plan, the principle of which I have always advocated myself. "Greater facilities," he says, "ought to be provided to patriotic citizens for making grants of money to the national Exchequer. Collecting-boxes ought to be placed in all townhalls and public buildings." I don't know about the "national Exchequer," but I am sure this is a system which would benefit our charities immensely. If collecting-boxes were placed in the grand-stands of race-courses especially, there would be many benefactions-by the superstitious and the grateful-of money which is now assuredly much worse spent. If some of our religious bodies are so foolish as to decline such gifts on the score of their being the proceeds of gambling-I read of a chapel committee the other day refusing to be helped by the carnal means of a bazaar-the hospitals (not to mention "the unemployed") surely need not be so scrupulous. A pound is a pound, whose ever pocket it comes from. Non olet; or if it does smell, there never was so much soap about, to judge by the advertisements, as now to wash it.

Even Mr. Balfour's enemies, and he has many, will not deny him the attribute of courage; and never has he shown himself more audacious than in his speech upon the choice of books. This is a subject upon which the Professors of Culture have been hammering for some time without

producing one spark of genuine interest; the only advantage from it has been gained by the newspapers and magazines, which have got their "copy" out of them for nothing. The truth of the matter is, that a man can no more indicate a particular course of reading to benefit another whom he does not know, than a doctor can prescribe pills for a patient with whose needs he is unacquainted. Moreover, no one but a prig sets himself solemnly down before a row of books "to improve his mind." Men read to lighten the load of toil; to open vistas of thought which would be otherwise closed to them, and which they have a natural desire to explore; and if there is one resolution more firmly planted in their breasts than another, it is never to go to school again. Nothing is more amusing than the wrath that has been aroused in our philosophers by the discovery that in all our public libraries the run upon fiction is ten times that upon any other branch of literature; yet nothing can be simpler than the reason: not only "the proper" but the most attractive "study of mankind is man."

THE PRINCE OF WALES IN EAST LONDON.

On Saturday, Dec. 10, the Prince of Wales visited the People's Palace at Mile-End, for the purpose of opening an Apprentices' Exhibition, promoted by the Drapers' Company, on a suggestion from the Industrial Committee of the Jewish Board of Guardians in East London. The promoters believed that, however advantageous technical schools might be, the proper place for an artisan to learn his trade was the workshop, and, except in special cases, the apprenticeship system, which of late had shown signs of decay, should be revived. With a view to encourage lads to learn a trade thoroughly and systematically, and to take an interest in his work, the committee offered a series of medals and prizes for genuine craft-skill, which they

encourage lads to learn a trade thoroughly and systematically, and to take an interest in his work, the committee offered a series of medals and prizes for genuine craft-skill, which they hoped might stimulate to higher aims.

His Royal Highness, attended by the Earl of Gcsford and Colonel the Hon. Tyrwhitt Wilson, arrived at the palace at three o'clock, and was greeted with hearty cheers. He was met by Sir Edmund Hay Currie and the Beaumont Trustees, and was conducted to a reception saloon, where a numerous company was assembled. Among those present were the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, Lord Kinnaird, Mr. Ritchie, M.P., Captain Colomb, M.P., Mr. Montagu, M.P., Mr. Spencer Charrington, M.P., Mr. Norris, M.P., Sir Lyon Playfair, M.P., Sir William Hardman, Sir John Jennings, the Rev. J. R. Diggle, the Rev. J. F. Kitto, Mr. Frederick Young, Lieutenant-General Greenaway (Master of the Drapers' Company and president of the Exhibition), Dr. Turtle Pigott (Master of the Turners' Company), the Rev. W. Benham, Mr. H. H. Cunynghame, Mr. Robert Mitchell, and representatives of the Grocers', Clothworkers', Mercers', Joiners', Farriers', and many other City guilds. The Prince was first conducted to the gymnasium, where a varied programme of exercises was gone through by 150 members of the gymnastic class, lasting a quarter of an hour. His Royal Highness was then escorted through the exhibition, which is of an extensive character, the exhibits numbering nearly 900. All are the work of apprentices, of various ages, from fourteen to twenty, and many snow considerable merit. At some of the stages apprenapprentices, of various ages, from fourteen to twenty, and many snow considerable merit. At some of the stages apprentices were at work clad in the garb of mediæval times. After a hurried inspection, the Prince was conducted to the Queen's Hall, where a crowded assembly greeted his Royal Highness with loud applause. The boys of the technical day school having sung the National Anthem, Lieutenant-General Greenaway, Mr. Cunynghame, Mr. N. L. Cohen, Mr. G. Shipton, Mr. S. S. Hyam, and Mr. R. Mitchell, the officials of the exhibition, had the honour of being presented to the Prince by Sir E. H. Currie. Mr. Cunynghame read an address, stating the progress of the People's Palace, and of the institutions connected with it, and presented the Prince with a set of medals enclosed in a neat case embossed with the Royal Arms, the work of London apprentices. His Royal Highness graciously accepted this offering, and proceeded to deliver an interesting speech. He expressed his confidence that the British workman, if properly educated, would be a match for any of his foreign rivals. He commended the technical schools, and the classes for drawing, educated, would be a match for any of his foreign rivals. He commended the technical schools, and the classes for drawing, mathematics, and science, urging the necessity of young men and young women continuing to study after they leave the elementary schools. He had great pleasure in seeing the gymnastic exercises, in which the young men trained their limbs and eyes, and improved their nerves and courage; he hoped there would soon be a swimming-bath. He was glad to hear that there were 2600 members enjoying the social recreations of the club at the People's Palace. He noticed with approval the lectures and evening entertainments provided in London by the Recreative Schools Association, and the lectures of the London Society for the Extension of University Teaching. He dwelt on the great liberality of the Drapers' Company, and mentioned that the Ironmongers' Company were disposed to contribute part of the yearly revenue of their trust funds to promote technical, scientific, commercial, and artistic education, combined with physical and social recreation, in some other part of London. He also referred to the old Polytechnic Institution in Regent-street, which had done much excellent work, and which now depended mainly on Mr. Quintin Hogg; he trusted that arrangements would be made to keep it up. The proposed application of the ancient charity fund of Bishopsgate to establish a library and institute was alluded to. Having opened the Apprentices' Exhibition, his Royal Highness left the hall, the choir singing "God Bless the Prince of Wales," with renewed cheering of the crowd surrounding the entrance to the palace, the guard of honour (Post-Office Volunteers) presenting arms, and the band playing the National Anthem. During the afternoon the band of the Scots Guards performed a selection of music, and an organ recital was given in the Queen's Hall. recital was given in the Queen's Hall.

The Central London Ophthalmic Hospital, 238, Gray's-innroad, is in urgent need of assistance. It is situated in a poor and densely-populated district, and is solely dependent on voluntary contributions, through the insufficiency of which the committee are unable to fully utilise the wards recently added to the hospital. Cast linen also will be gratefully received.

The Postmaster-General has issued a notice stating that, with the view of affording further facilities for the transmission by registered-letter post of watches, jewellery, and other small articles of value, the fee of 1d. for the insurance up to £5 of a registered letter will be discontinued. Henceforward, except in the case of letters containing coin, compensation for loss or damage to an amount not exceeding £5 will be given without payment of any insurance fee, provided that the registration fee of 2d. and the postage at the ordinary inland rate have been prepaid. In the case of letters containing coin, compensation will still be given up to £2. Thus, without payment of an insurance fee, compensation up to an amount not exceeding £5 will be given in respect of a registered letter.

M. JULES FERRY.

The attempt to assassinate this eminent French politician, on The attempt to assassinate this eminent French politician, on Saturday, Dec. 10, by a fanatical conspirator, Nicholas Aubertin, who fired three shots at him, inflicting two slight wounds, in the public hall of the Chamber of Deputies, has excited general indignation. Happily, M. Ferry is but very little the worse for his wounds. Jules François Camille Ferry was born at St. Dié, in the Department of the Vosges, April 5, 1832, studied law at Paris, and was called to the Bar in 1854. He joined the party of Opposition under the Empire of Napoleon III and in 1864 was prosecuted for a political offence, having joined the party of Opposition under the Philphe of Reposition III., and in 1864 was prosecuted for a political offence, having published, the year before, a pamphlet exposing the interference of Government with the elections. In 1865, he became ference of Government with the elections. inf., and in 1864 was prosecuted for a political offence, having published, the year before, a pamphlet exposing the interference of Government with the elections. In 1865, he became a regular contributor to the Temps, and attacked the enormous abuses in the administration of the municipality of Paris under Baron Haussmann, Prefect of the Seine. He was elected, in 1869, a member of the Corps Législatif, in which he acted with the Left, the frankly Liberal party, and procured committees of inquiry concerning the affairs of the city of Paris, while he assailed with equal vigour the political and judicial corruption of the Empire. He opposed the Ministry of M. Emile Ollivier, and protested against the war with Germany in 1870. At the Revolution of September, in that year, on the defeat and capture of the Emperor at Sedan, M. Ferry was chosen Secretary of the Provisional Government, and he was actively engaged in the measures for the national defence. He was afterwards, with M. Thiers, one of the Commissioners who met Prince Bismarck to negotiate terms of peace; and he headed the force sent to put down the Communist insurrection, and took possession of the Hôtel de Ville. He was, for some months, Mayor of Paris, and Administrator of the Department of the Seine. M. Thiers, when he became President of the Republic, nominated M. Ferry to be Prefect of the Seine; but this appointment was revoked after a few days. In May, 1872, M. Ferry was sent as French Ambassador to Athens, which post he retained a twelvemonth. After his return, he again became an active and influential member of the Chamber, being elected representative of his native district in the Vosges; and he was called on by President Grévy, a few years since, to form a Ministry, the acts of which, including the military expeditions to Tonkin and to Madagascar, the occupation of Tunis, and the conduct of the French Government. The failure of his recent candidature for the Presidency of the Republic was not a great surprise to those acquainted with the politica

Boulevard St. Germain, Paris.

THE LATE DEAN OF ROCHESTER.

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An obituary notice has recorded the death, at the age of seventy-six, of the Very Rev. Dr. Scott, Dean of Rochester, formerly Master of Balliol College, Oxford. Robert Scott was born in Devonshire in 1811. He was a student of Christ Church, Oxford, and held the Craven Scholarship in 1830 and the Ireland Scholarship in 1833, in which year he took his degree as a first class in Literæ Humaniores. He took the Latin Essay prize in 1834, won the Denyer Theological Essay prize in 1838, and became a Doctor of Divinity in 1854. He was a Fellow and tutor of Balliol College from 1835 to 1840. He was Rector of Duloe, Cornwall, from 1840 to 1850; Prebendary of Exeter, 1845 to 1866; Rector of South Suffenham, Rutlandshire, 1850 to 1854; Select Preacher at Oxford, 1853-4 and 1874-5; Master of Balliol College, 1854 to 1870; Member of the Hebdomadal Council, 1854 to 1870; a Delegate of the Press, 1855 to 1870; and Professor of the Exegesis of Holy Scriptures from 1861 to 1870. He was appointed Dean of Rochester in 1870. He was the author, in conjunction with Dr. Liddell, of the well-known Greek-English Lexicon which was published in 1843, and has run through numerous editions, the last of which was published in 1883; "Twelve Sermons," published in 1851; "University Sermons," published in 1860; and he was a contributor to "The Speaker's Commentary," and one of the revisers of the authorised version of the New Testament. In Dr. Scott has passed away one of the first Greek scholars of the day, whose name has been associated with the history of Oxford during the last quarter of a century. the day, whose name has been associated with the history of Oxford during the last quarter of a century.

The Portrait is from a photograph by Mr. Samuel A. Walker, of 230, Regent-street.

THE LATE LIEUT, BRYAN ADAMSON, R.N. The loss of H.M.S. Wasp, gun-boat, on the voyage from Singapore to Shanghai, in September last, has been mentioned Singapore to Shanghal, in September last, has been mentioned by us more than once, and is a cause of sorrow, especially to many people at Chatham and Sheerness, where the officers and crew were personally known. The Commander of the Wasp, Lieutenant Bryan John Huthwaite Adamson, was the eldest son of Mr. William Adamson, of Cullercoats, Northumberland, Major in the Northumberland Militia. He was born Oct. 10, 1851. His great-grandfather, Lieutenant B. H. Adamson, R.N., was at the taking of Goree, on the west coast of Africa, and in the victorious actions, under Keppel and Hawke, against the French in the British Channel, and afterwards in the operations for victorious actions, under Keppel and Hawke, against the French in the British Channel, and afterwards in the operations for the conquest of Canada and of the French and Spanish West Indies, until 1762. He was second Lieutenant on board the Racehorse in the Arctic voyage of 1773, under Commodore Phipps, afterwards Lord Mulgrave. His great grandson, the subject of this memoir, having taken a first-class certificate on passing out of the training ship Britannia, was in September, 1866, appointed midshipman on board the Victoria, flag-ship, in the Mediterranean. From this ship he volunteered into the Endymion, which was paid off in 1869, but was soon afterwards commissioned to form part of the Flying Squadron, when he was again appointed to off in 1869, but was soon afterwards commissioned to form part of the Flying Squadron, when he was again appointed to the same ship, and sailed round the world in 1870. He became Sub-Lieutenant in 1871; and in June, 1872, was appointed to the Swiftsure. He obtained his commission as Lieutenant in 1875, and was appointed to the Volage, then stationed in the West Indies. Next year he applied to qualify in gunnery, and went to the College and to the Excellent. Taking a special gunnery certificate, he was next appointed Gunnery Lieutenant of the Hector, coastguard-ship, at Southampton. He served for some years afterwards in the Tenedos, on the West India Station; and before his last appointment in April to command the Wasp he was acting as Senior Lieutenant in the mand the Wasp he was acting as Senior Lieutenant in the Royal Naval Barracks, Sheerness. It is now almost certain that the Wasp, with all its crew, must have foundered during a typhoco in the China. a typhoon in the Chinese Sea.

At a meeting of the Irish Landlords' Convention in Dublin on Dec. 13, a resolution was adopted affirming that, on various grounds, landowners were entitled to compensation from the State.

THE COURT.

The Queen has walked and driven nearly daily. Prince and The Queen has walked and driven nearly daily. Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg returned from London on Dec. 8. The Duchess of Albany with Princess Alice and the young Duke of Albany, took leave of her Majesty, and left the castle for Claremont. His Excellency the Italian Ambassador, the Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury, Lord Walter Gordon Lennox, and the Right Hon. W. H. and Mrs. Smith arrived at the castle. The Duke of Norfolk also arrived at the castle, and was introduced to an audience by Lord Henniker, Lord-in-Waiting. The Italian Ambassador was introduced by the Marquis of Salisbury, and presented his letters of recall. Lord Salisbury of Salisbury, and presented his letters of recall. Lord Salisbury had an audience of the Queen. The Italian Ambassador, the Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury, and the Right Hon. W. H. and Mrs. Smith, had the honour of dining with her Majesty and the Royal family. Lord Walter Gordon Lennox was presented to the Queen in the evening. Madame Albani-Gye, with Mr., Miss, and Master Gye and Mdlle. La Jeunesse, arrived at Windsor Castle on Dec. 9. and had the honour of singing the Windsor Castle on Dec. 9, and had the honour of singing the following pieces:—"Angels ever bright and fair," by Handel; "Hear my Prayer," by Mendelssohn, with chorus and organ; "With verdure clad," from the "Creation," by Haydn; and "From Thy love as a Father," from the "Redemption," by Gounod, with chorus, before her Majesty and the Royal family. Mr. Parrott presided at the organ. On Dec. 10 the Queen received at Windsor Castle forty of the mathematical boys on King Charles II.'s foundation at Christ's Hospital, and selected some of the water colours which were submitted to her. Baron and Baroness Schröder and Miss Van De Weyer had the honour of dining with the Queen and Royal family in the evening. The Queen and Royal family and the members of the Royal household attended Divine service in the private chapel at Windsor Queen and Royal family and the members of the Royal household attended Divine service in the private chapel at Windsor Castle on Sunday morning, Dec. 11. The Bishop of Bedford, assisted by the Dean of Windsor, officiated; and the Bishop of Pedford preached the sermon. Dec. 14 being the anniversary of the deaths of the late Prince Consort and the Grand Duchess of Hesse, the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, Princess of Albany, and other members of the Royal family attended the annual service held in memory of the deceased at the Frogmore mausoleum, and placed wreaths near the tomb of Prince Albert and the Princess Alice memorial. The Dean of Windsor officiated. The Queen and Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg are expected to leave Windsor Castle about Dec. 20 for the Isle of Wight, where the Court passes the Christmas season. The Queen has forwarded £10 to William Griffith, miner, of Penteg, Tremadoc, who, while engaged in the local celebration of her Majesty's Jubilee, was injured by the bursting of a cannon which he had charged.

charged.

The Prince of Wales, attended by the Hon. H. Tyrwhitt Wilson, arrived at Marlborough House on Dec. 9 from Sandringham. The Prince was present in the morning at a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Trustees of the British Museum. On Dec. 10 his Royal Highness performed the ceremony of opening the Apprentices' Exhibition at the People's Palace, Mile-end—of which some particulars are given elsewhere. The Princess of Wales, accompanied by Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, arrived at Marlborough House in the afternoon from Sandringham. On Sunday, Dec. 11, the Prince and Princess and Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud were present at Divine service. The Duc d'Aumale visited the Prince and Princess of Wales, and remained house in the afternoon from Sandring ham. On Sunday, Dec. 11, the Prince and Princess and Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud were present at Divine service. The Duc d'Aumale visited the Prince and Princess of Wales, and remained to Iuncheon. The Prince and Princess received his Highness the Maharajah Syaji Rao Gackwar of Baroda Sena Khas Kheyl Samsher Bahadur Farzand -i - Khas -i Dowlat -i - Englishia at Marlborough House on Dec. 12. Previous to this her Highness the Maharanee Sahib Jimna Bai Gackwar was received by their Royal Highnesses. In the afternoon the Prince, attended by the Hon. H. Tyrwhitt-Wilson, returned the visit of his Highness the Gackwar of Baroda at his London residence in Victoria-street. The Princess of Wales, accompanied by Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, left Marlborough House in the afternoon on a visit to the Queen. Their Royal Highnesses travelled from Paddington by Great Western train, and were received on their arrival at Windsor, shortly before two o'clock, by Colonel the Hon. W. Carington, Equerry to her Majesty. The Princess and her daughters drove immediately to the palace. On Tuesday, Dec. 13, the Prince paid a visit to her Majesty. Dec. 13, the Prince paid a visit to her Majesty.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE TRANSVAAL.

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The negotiations between the Dutch African Governments of the Transvaal Republic and the Orange River Free State, concerning projects for railways and traffic and tariff arrangements, have lately received some public attention. A correspondent at Pretoria, the capital of the Transvaal, Mr. Henry C. Whitehead, sends us a sketch of the scene there on Oct. 31, when the President, Mr. Kruger, arrived home from Blomfontein, the capital of the Orange River Free State, after attending this diplomatic conference. It had failed of any decided result; nevertheless, the Transvaal Government erected a triumphal arch, and the loyal burghers rode out several miles, to meet the President and escort him into the town. It appears that Mr. Kruger wanted to make the treaty of commerce dependent on a binding defensive and offensive alliance between the two Dutch States, for unconditional military support of each other. He also required that the Orange River Free State should bind itself not to construct any railway line westward beyond Blomfontein for a period of ten years, and then should exclude every other line except and other the Corange Religious for the Residence of Resid any railway fine westward beyond Diministrative representations and then should exclude every other line except an extension of the Cape Railway from Colesberg to Blomfontein. The Transvaal Republic would pay £20,000 a year towards railway construction. Mr. Brand, the Orange River President, declined these proposals, and the conference was broken off.

ITALIAN TRANSPORTS IN THE SUEZ CANAL.

Great excitement was felt amongst the troops on board H.M.S. Malabar, homeward bound from India, on passing in the Suez Canal several Italian transports, closely packed with troops, bound for Massowah. To judge from the cheering and clapping of hands on both sides, the English and Italians must be on very good terms; in fact, the Italian soldiers seemed to be in the best of good spirits and cheered everything, even to an Arab running along the canal bank asking for "backsheesh." The troops, though young, seemed a hardy and happy set of men; and anyone, not knowing they were bound for the seat of war on the Abyssinian frontier, would have supposed them to be out on a pleasure trip. In the foreground of our Sketch will be seen an earthwork, now rapidly disappearing, which was raised by Arabi's orders for the protection of the canal; and in the distance is the "Gare," or signal station, which regulates the traffic on the canal on the block system. It is here the holy carpet annually passes over the canal on its way to Mecca, and this is also the ancient desert road and caravan route between Asia Minor and Egypt. The Sketch of this scene is by Lieutenant Boyer, R.N.

THE MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL.

The commencement of work on the Manchester Ship Canal The commencement of work on the Manchester Ship Canal at Eastham Ferry was inaugurated on Nov. 11 in a very quiet and almost private manner. Lord Egerton of Tatton, chairman of the directors, Sir Joseph Lee, vice-chairman, and twenty other directors, including the Mayor of Stockport, arrived by steamer from Liverpool. They were met by Mr. Walker, of Westminster, the contractor, and his representative, Mr. Topham, of Manchester, Mr. Manisty, the district agent for the length of canal between Eastham and Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, and other gentlemen. A locomotive-engine was in Cheshire, and other gentlemen. A locomotive-engine was in waiting upon a line of rails which had been laid up to a point adjoining the ferry landing and opposite Eastham Hotel, and the whole party entered the trucks which conveyed them to the point where the canal is to commence upon the shore about a quarter of a mile distant. Lord Egerton of Tatton cut a turf quarter of a mile distant. Lord Egerton of Tatton cut a turf by way of opening the work, an operation which was greeted by the people assembled with ringing eheers. Sir Joseph Lee also cut a turf. The party then adjourned to the Eastham Hotel, where a directors' meeting was held. After luncheon they returned to Liverpool by steamer, and a satisfactory inspection was made of the vast quantity of plant and material brought together by the contractor and his representative. Our Illustration shows the new kind of digger, worked by steam, which is already in operation at Eastham. It was supplied to the contractor by Messrs. Wilson, of Sandhills, Liverpool. hills, Liverpool.

DINNER TO "SANDWICH-MEN."

DINNER TO "SANDWICH-MEN."

A peer and politician of the last century, who bore a title from an ancient Cinque-Port borough of Kent, is credited with the invention of that handy combination of victuals—a slice of beef or ham inserted between two slices of bread—which saves the use of knife and fork at a hasty lunch or supper. Many of us can recollect when the ingenious contrivers of new methods of advertising took a hint, probably from the breastboard of some street beggar, inscribed "Pity the Poor Blind," and equipped walking carriers of various announcements seeking publicity with a pair of placards on boards, hung at the front and back of each man, which gave his position an odd resemblance to that of the central ingredient of a "sandwich." These are very poor men, earning by their humble services not more than from a shilling to sixteenpence a day, and it was a kind thought to give them a good dinner, with a warm cardigan knitted woollen jacket and a pair of warm gloves for every man, besides a New Testament. The benevolent donor was the Hon. Thomas Holt, of Halcot, Bexley, formerly a member of the Legislative Council of New South Wales, who has entertained in like manner, at the East-end of London, large companies of dock-labourers, cripples, blind and infirm persons, women, and children, under the management of Mr. Wilkiam Harrison, of the Bloomsbury and Soho Domestic Mission. The dinner given by this gentleman to the "sandwich-men" of the West and West Central districts took place on Monday, Dec. 12, at the Mission-hall in Meard-street, Deanstreet, Soho. A substantial meal, consisting of roast beef and vegetables, followed by plum-pudding, was provided, and the guests, who brought with them large appetites, appeared to enjoy it. They were subsequently presented with the articles we have mentioned. In the districts from which the 500 men were drawn there are 2000 employed by advertising contractors. About one-fourth of them are discharged soldiers, very few of whom have pensions. About one in eight has bee whom have pensions. About one in eight has been a sailor, and one-fourth have been mechanics. Some of the men have been well educated, but have been reduced through misfortune

THE TASMANIAN HARRIERS.

THE TASMANIAN HARRIERS.

The beautiful island of Tasmania, which has many attractions of scenery and climate as a residence, though its colonial progress has been less rapid than that of the neighbouring provinces of Australia, affords field-sports to men with leisure for such amusement. Hares, among other importations, which unfortunately include the still more destructive race of rabbits, have found their way to a country where the aboriginal quadrupeds were all of the marsupial order, not forgetting those peculiar to the island, the formidable so-called "tigerwolf" and the "Tasmanian devil," as big and as fierce as the hyaena, addicted to nocturnal depredations among the sheep. A pack of harriers is kept by the gentlemen of Hobart, who on Sept. 17 went up the river Derwent from that city, in a steamer, and landed with the hounds at Old Beach, for a sort of coursing match. The hounds were to be started after the hares in a handicap run of six miles and a half, and whoever reached Risdon Ferry first was to be the winner of the club trophy and sweepstakes. After the usual preliminaries, with false starts and jokes, they were finally off, going up bill, and for some time no sign of them was seen; but the anxious party on board the steamer, with opera-glasses, eye-glasses, and the naked eye, stood on the tip-toe of expectation, till a cry of "There they go!" arose; then, and from time to time, a white dot of a harrier appeared on the hillsides, as the steamer coasted along the shore. But the distance was too great to do more than guess at the identification of the competitors. To a stranger who loved nature, it would have been more delightful to gaze on the landscape. The distant hills were of a soft, misty shade of blue, turning into olive where the gum-tree (Bucalyptus globulus) covers their sides in forests, and again to a deep blue-black near the water's edge, where the she-oak flourishes in groves, and casts deep rich shadows into Derwent's clear waters. Here and there in the fertile valleys are smiling vill

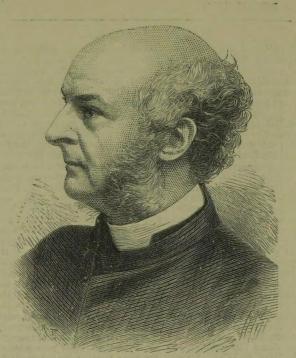
Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) attended a meeting at Nottingham on Dec. 12, presided over by the Bishop of Southwell, in support of the movement establishing recreative evening classes throughout the country. Resolutions in favour of the objects of the meeting were supported by the Bishop of Ripon, Mr. Samuel Smith, M.P., Mr. Cyril Flower, M.P., Mr. H. S. Wright, M.P., and others. Next day her Royal Highness opened an exhibition of work at the evening classes.



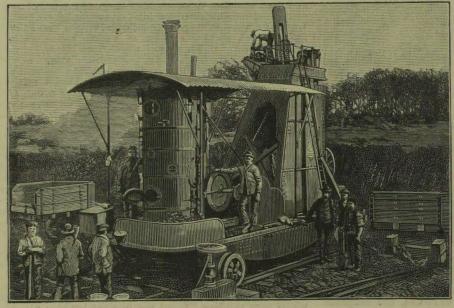
M. JULES FERRY, RECENTLY WOUNDED BY AN ASSASSIN IN PARIS.



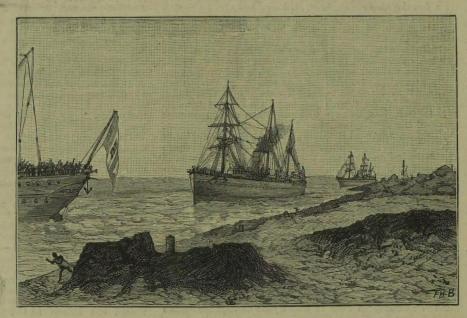
THE LATE LIEUTENANT BRYAN ADAMSON, R.N., COMMANDER OF H.M.S. WASP, LOST AT SEA.



THE LATE VERY REV. R. SCOTT, D.D., DEAN OF ROCHESTER.



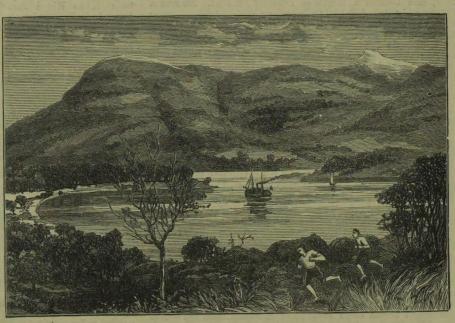
STEAM DIGGER AT THE MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL WORKS, EASTHAM.



ITALIAN TRANSPORTS IN THE SUEZ CANAL.



THE PRESIDENT OF THE TRANSVAAL'S RETURN TO PRETORIA:



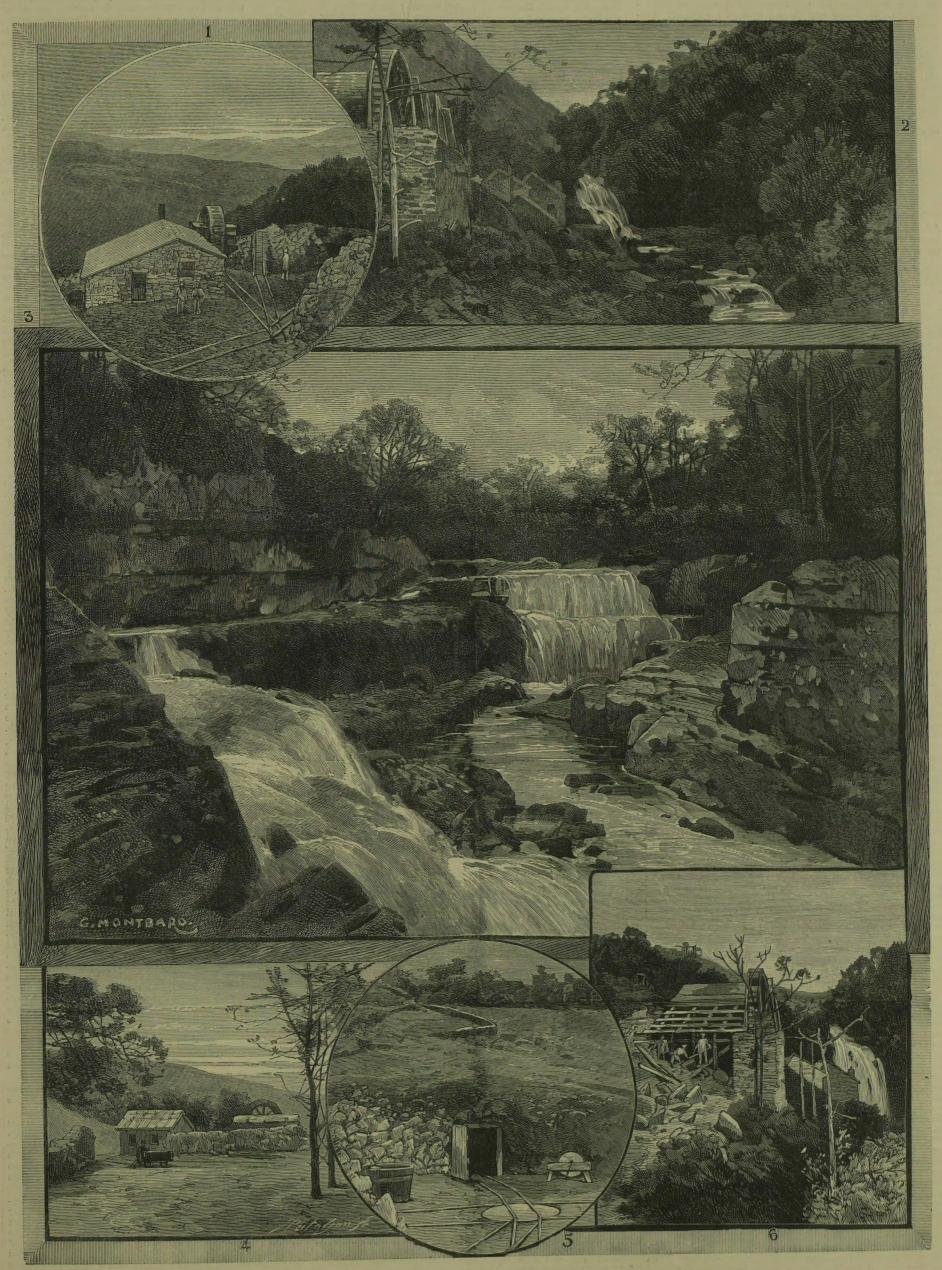
MEET OF THE TASMANIAN HARRIERS.



PRESENTING THE MEN WITH CARDIGAN JACKETS AND GLOVES.



SKETCHES AT THE DINNER.



General view of the mine, Gwyn-fynnidd.
 The Mawldach Falls, from the gold works.

^{3.} Pistyl-y-caen, upper falls.4. Entrance to gold mine.

^{5.} Mouth of the adit to gold mine.6. Gold mill and falls of the Mawddach.

PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

(From our own Correspondent.) PARIS, Tuesday, Dec. 13.

The pessimists are still moaning and wishing that some coup d'état would reveal a new saviour of society, and meanwhile events, or rather the absence of events, seem to be demonstrated.

events, or rather the absence of events, seem to be demonstrating the absurdity of Parliamentary government and the extreme usefulness of well-organised permanent administrations. How long was France without a Cabinet? Certainly some weeks; and yet no particular evil came of the lack, and in the peculiarly dangerous circumstances of the recent Congress order was preserved in the streets quite as efficaciously as if there had been a Minister of the Interior to sign the decrees. The danger lies in the fact that everything connected with politics is becoming ridiculous; even President Carnot, before he had been a week in office, was caricatured and laughed at because he could not find the responsible collaborators necessary to form a Cabinet. But M. Fallières and M. Goblet having tried and failed, M. Tirard at length succeeded in forming a Ministry, as follows:—

Premier and Finance Minister ... M. Tirard.

Premier and Finance Minister Minister for Foreign Affairs Minister of Justice ... Minister of the Interior ... Minister of Public Instruction Minister of Public Instruction Minister of Public Works ... Minister of Commerce ... Minister of Commerce ... Minister of Agriculture ... as follows:—
M. Tirard.
M. Flourens.
M. Fallières.
M. Sarrien.
M. Faye.
M. De Mahy.
M. Loubet.
M. Dautresme.
M. Viette.
General Logerot.

At the meeting of the Chamber to-day, M. Tirard read the Message from President Carnot, who promised to strive unceasingly to deserve the confidence shown him by the National Assembly. He appealed to the patriotism of the deputies for a policy of progress, appeasement, and concord. A Bill was subsequently brought in to enable the collection of three months' revenue on account.

In the midst of this improving all the more regrettable as it.

In the midst of this imbroglio, all the more regrettable as it happens on the eve of the Christmas holidays, the Anarchist theory of propagandism by acts receives a commencement of execution. A man named Aubertin demands an interview of M. Jules Ferry in the waiting-room of the Chamber of Deputies, and discharges three barrels of a revolver with intent to kill the unpopular statesman. Happily, M. Ferry's wounds are simply bruises without gravity, and Aubertin, although practising Anarchist methods of vengeance, is not affiliated to any Anarchist group; he is a slightly crazy inventor, who is mad against humanity at large because he has failed to make a fortune. Nevertheless, in their Sunday meetings the Anarchists all approved Aubertin's act, and regretted only that he had not killed the "traitor Ferry." Hitherto, Gallo and Duval alone have proved themselves practical Anarchists; but, so far as one can affirm with certainty, there are about two hundred Anarchists in Paris who make a business of preaching murder and assassination in the more of In the midst of this imbroglio, all the more regrettable as it there are about two hundred Anarchists in Paris who make a business of preaching murder and assassination in the more or less public revolutionary meetings. These men are guilty of a crime punishable by law. It is, perhaps, time for the Parisians to think about ridding their city of these evangelists of murder, who may any day carry their theories into practice. For this kind of work revolvers suffice; whereas the mass of the revolutionaries, with the Paris Municipal Council at their head, are paralysed for want of arms. But enough of all-absorbing politics. The sum and substance of the situation is that France is in a condition so critical that if any party had an unscrupulous and

sum and substance of the situation is that France is in a condition so critical that if any party had an unscrupulous and bold man at its head, we might expect great changes. The man being wanting, things will continue to limp along as usual until the cup of disgust overflows.

For the first time the Comédie Française has celebrated the anniversary of Alfred De Musset, who was born Dec. 11, 1810. Last year Victor Hugo was admitted to the honour of a similar celebration, which had hitherto been reserved for Molière, Corneille, and Racine, considered as the veritable creators of French dramatic literature. If Musset is thus honoured, the Comédie Française ought also to celebrate the anniversaries of Regnard, Beaumarchais, and Alexandre Dumas the elder. However, let us note at once that the Musset celebration, accompanied by the crowning of his bust on the stage, was a great success and a us note at once that the Musset celebration, accompanied by the crowning of his bust on the stage, was a great success and a triumph for the charming Mdlle. Legault, who made her second début on this occasion as Madame De Lery in "Un Caprice." Mdlle. Legault promises to become very rapidly a great attraction at the Comédie Française; her talent, her beauty, and her elegance are equally remarkable. How strange the change of taste! The young literary men of modern France consider Alfred De Musset to be rococo and old-fashioned, and reproach him with the poorness of his rhymes and the negligence of his style. The ideal of to-day is an impassible, majestic, and serene poetry, wherein no human fibre vibrates, no human passion disturbs, and where the whole sensation come from the words and their music. This, I suppose, is a sign of the times; the modern Frenchmen, whole sensation come from the words and their music. This, I suppose, is a sign of the times; the modern Frenchmen, eager in the pursuit of fortune and material prosperity, have fewer illusions and less hope than their predecessors. In an age when men profess to have no time for love, much less for despair, Alfred De Musset, the eternal poet of love, despair, and hope, may, alas, be voted old-fashioned, but his genius is none the less immortal.

While the Committee Francisco was alleged to the committee of the

While the Comédie Française was celebrating the anniversary of Musset, the men of letters were celebrating, by a grand banquet and other ceremonies, the fiftieth anniversary grand banquet and other ceremonies, the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of their Société des Gens de Lettres. Since its foundation, in 1837, this society has distributed 420,000f. in aid of necessitous literary men; it now serves 127 pensions, distributes annually 400,000f. amongst its members, and possesses a capital of over 2,000,000f. This banquet was presided over by M. Jules Clarétie, president of the society, who devoted part of his speech to welcoming the delegates of the Incorporated Society of Authors, and to a panegyric of Lord Tennyson, who had sent a message of congratulation.

A word must be devoted to a remarkable woman who has just died in the fulness of years and honours. Madame Boucicault.

died in the fulness of years and honours, Madame Boucicault, the wife of the founder of the famous Bon Marché dry goods store. M. and Mdme. Boucicault started this establishment in store. M. and Mdme. Boucicault started this establishment in 1852, in a small shop, where they were alone to carry on their business. Under their guidance the Bon Marché has grown to the vast enterprise which it now is, employing 3230 persons, and Madame Boucicault dies leaving a fortune of one hundred millions of francs, or four millions sterling. Madame Boucicault devoted her life and her fortune to charity and to realising in the Bon Marché a vast association of labour and capital, in the profits of which every employé participates. By her will her fortune will be distributed partly among the employés of the Bon Marché, and partly amongst public and private charities, several of which were founded by Madame Boucicault. The charity of this lady was so munificent and so intelligent that the Government intended to confer upon her at the end of the year the rare distinction of the Legion of Honour

Statuemania continues to rage in France. There is now talk of a statue to the great Carnot, the grandfather of the new President of the Republic, to Alfred De Musset, to Balzac, and to the sculptor Barye.

The Emperor and Empress of Germany entertained Prince and Princess William and the Grand Duke and Grand Duckess

of Baden at dinner on Dec. 9. After giving audience on the morning of Dec. 12 to Privy Counciller Von Wilmowski, his Majesty received at noon the Grand Duchess Catherine and her Majesty received at noon the Grand Duchess Catherine and her daughter. At three o'clock the Emperor received Herr Von Puttkamer, Vice-President of the Prussian Ministry, and subsequently Count Herbert Von Bismarck, with both of whom he conferred upon State business. At the dinner subsequently given at the Imperial Palace there were present the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Baden, several other members of the Royal-family, and the Grand Duchess Catherine and her daughter.—The Crown Prince continues comparatively well. Lord Templetown has arrived at San Remo with a letter from Queen Victoria to the Crown Princess, who, like her husband, has written several letters to Berlin, expressing the deepest gratitude for the sympathy of the nation, and an earnest wish gratitude for the sympathy of the nation, and an earnest wish that the German Christmas may not be saddened by the Crown Prince's illness.—Prince Bismarck has now entirely recovered from his recent sharp attack of illness

The King of Denmark left Vienna for Copenhagen on Dec. 13. On the previous day his Majesty received a farewell visit from the Emperor of Austria. The Duchess of Cumberland continues to enjoy excellent health.—The Diet of Lower Austria have resolved unanimously to congratulate the Pope on the occasion of his Jubilee.

The Swiss National Council has adopted the Federal Budget for 1888. The estimated receipts amount to 56,066,000f., and the expenditure to 56,866,000f.

In the sitting of the Greek Chamber on Dec. 9, M. Tricoupis, in his capacity as Minister of War, submitted the military Estimates for 1888, which amount to 16,938,500 drachmas, against 18,074,069 drachmas for 1887, thus effecting a saving of over 1,000,000 drachmas. The strength of the Army for the coming year is fixed at 26,340 men.

Sir Horace Rumbold, at present British Minister to Greece, has been appointed British Minister to the Netherlands, in succession to the Hon. Sir W. Stuart, who is retiring. Sir Horace Rumbold will be succeeded at Athens by Sir E. Monson, now her Majesty's Minister at Copenhagen.

The festival of the Order of St. George was celebrated at St. Petersburg on Dec. 8 at the Winter Palace, with the oustomary ceremonies, in presence of the Czar and Czarina.

oustomary ceremonies, in presence of the Czar and Czarina.

Mr. Whitney, Secretary of the United States Navy, gave a dinner on Dec. 9, in honour of Mr. Chamberlain. Among the guests were Sir L. Sackville West, the British Minister, Mr. Carlisle, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and other notabilities, accompanied by their wives. The Fisheries Commissioners held a meeting on Dec. 10, and adjourned until Jan. 4. In the meantime, Mr. Chamberlain will visit Ottawa, where he will be the guest of Lord Lansdowne.—Mr. Irving's season closed on Dec. 10. It has been the most successful engagement in the theatrical annals of New York. The total receipts exceeded a hundred thousand dollars. The theatre was crowded every night, though the prices were double the usual rates. He began a three-weeks' engagement in Philadelphia on Dec. 12. The preliminary sale of tickets was the largest ever known in the city.

The Queen has presented a framed portrait of herself to the Association of German Governesses, 16, Wyndham-place,

The Duke of Norfolk left England on Dec. 12 for Rome on visit of courtesy to Leo XIII., as the personal Envoy of the Queen.

The inquest into the circumstances of the death of Alfred Linnell, who died from injuries received in Northumberland-avenue on Nov. 20, terminated with a verdict that he had died from blood-poisoning, consequent on his injuries; but how these were received there was no evidence to show.

Official notice is given that there will be one delivery of parcels on Christmas Day in London and at towns in England and Wales and Ireland where one delivery of letters is made; but this arrangement will not extend to the rural districts. In Scotland there will be no delivery of parcels on Christmas Day

In recognition of the endeavours of Captain Skipper to save the lives of the crew and passengers of the ill-fated steamer W. A. Scholten, sunk off Dover, the owners of the vessel have presented him with a gold watch and chain, and £20 to be divided among the crew. The Dutch Life-Boat Society has also awarded a gold medal to Captain Skipper.

Manufacturers, agriculturists, and other parties intending to take part as exhibitors in the Universal Exhibition, which will be inaugurated at Paris on May 5, 1889, are informed that, pending the formation in London of a British Central Commission to take charge of their interests, they can address their applications for admission and space to the French Consulate General, 38, Finsbury-circus, London, E.C.; or to the French Consulates in Liverpool, Glasgow, Dublin, Newcastle, and Cardiff.

The atmospheric gloom of London in December is banished by the welcome annual known as Punch's Almanac. The blithesome spirits of whom Mr. F. C. Burnand is the merry and blithesome spirits of whom Mr. F. C. Burnand is the merry and witty chief unite, indeed, to make *Punch's Almanae* more than usually bright and humorous. While good humour such as the author of "Happy Thoughts" is renowned for sparkles in the light letterpress, the artistic talents of Mr. Tenniel, Mr. Charles Keene, Mr. Du Maurier, Mr. Linley Samborne, and Mr. Harry Furniss furnish an artistic feast, which cannot fail to enliven the large circle of *Punch* readers.

The Queen has appointed Viscount Gormanston, K.C.M.G. (Governor of the Leeward Islands), to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of British Guiana, on the retirement of Sir H. Irving, K.C.M.G.; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Charles Bullen Hugh Mitchell, K.C.M.G. (Governor of Fiji and her Majesty's High Commissioner for the Western Pacific), to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Leeward Islands; and Sir John Bates Thurston, K.C.M.G. Lieutenant Islands; and Sir John Bates Thurston, K.C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor of Fiji, to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of that colony and her Majesty's High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

Professor Henry Morley delivered, at the London Institu-tion, the first of two lectures on "The Future University of London." He said that the purpose of the lecture was, so far as he was able, to suggest thought on one of the first questions of the day, and especially to urge the necessity of enlarging and deepening our system of education. He believed that this country had a critical time before it, and that its safeguard was the extension of education, both amongst the highest and the lowest. There was at the present time much controversy with respect to the constitution of the University of London with respect to the constitution of the University of London. Many changes might be suggested; but he should make no attack on the examination system of that University. All he should say was that merely to gather young men in an examination-room, and give them papers to answer, did not furnish any really efficient or sufficient test of the education they had received. He briefly sketched the rise and progress of the principal Universities of Europe, and stated that he should develop his views as to what should be the future of the University of London in the subsequent lecture.

THE GOLD DISCOVERY IN NORTH WALES. THE GOLD DISCOVERY IN NORTH WALES. We have much pleasure in giving some Illustrations of the new gold-mine and machinery on the Mawddach, in Merionethshire, North Wales. The fortunate owner of the property is Mr. W. Pritchard Morgan, who resides at Bryntirion, near where the mine is situated; and who has been for the last four years exploring the surrounding country, believing gold to exist there in payable quantities. The machinery, as shown by one of our Illustrations, is now in course of erection, and we cannot give any technical description of it; but our Special Artist has prepared some views of the mine and surrounding localities. The first is a general view of the mine at Gwyn-fynnidd, and the country around.

View No. 2 is of what is known as the Mawddach Falls, which are the falls that work the gold machinery; to the left will be seen the water-wheel of the machinery.

Another view shows the quartz-mill in course of erection;

will be seen the water-wheel of the machinery.

Another view shows the quartz-mill in course of erection; this consists of fifteen head of stamps and the necessary concentrating machinery as applied to gold-mining in Australia, where, as our readers may perhaps know, Mr. Pritchard Morgan has been largely interested in the pursuit of gold.

View No. 3 is the top of the Pistyl-y-caen upper fall, in the immediate vicinity of the mine; the fall works a large and extensive powder-mill, in the first house of which no less than sixty tons of machinery are kept in motion by the waterfall; this is also an industry which Mr. Pritchard Morgan has started in North Wales.

started in North Wales.

View No. 5 is the mouth of the adit; to the left will be seen a pile of gold stone, and on the surface of the hill some of the

a pile of gold stone, and on the surface of the hill some of the stone obtained from the upper workings, where the gold was first discovered. The stone is already stacked on what is known as the brace, where the tramway brings it out of the tunnel ready to be sent down the hill for treatment at the mill. There is a pile of valuable stone, which is estimated to contain 6 oz. of gold to the ton.

Bryntirion, the residence of the owner of the mine, is situated on the estuary half-way between Dolgelly and Barmouth, which is familiarly known to tourists. It is considered to have the most beautiful view in the beautiful valley. Gold is said to exist upon this and the surrounding properties. The foundations of the houses, as Mr. Morgan laughingly remarks, are built of golden quartz obtained in the locality some years ago by people who evidently did not know of the existence of ago by people who evidently did not know of the existence of gold as he seems to do.

We hope to give our readers some further Illustrations of

this valuable discovery, and fuller particulars concerning it.

this valuable discovery, and fuller particulars concerning it.

A correspondent, who has visited the North Wales mines, says that Mr. Morgan, the discoverer, in the presence of several colonial experts and visitors from London, stated that the last trial of the quartz yielded gold at the rate of 40 oz. per tcn.

Mr. Morgan also made the following statement:—"I have been steadily working in the neighbourhood for four years, perfectly certain of my plans and arrangements. On July 11 of this year I struck a heavy gold vein. The lode was 200 ft. in width, and since that I have had men working at it night and day. When I left the place yesterday, the quartz was as valuable and the lode as perfect as ever. Many of the lumps of quartz contained in specific quantity from 20 to 40 per cent of gold. Under scientific treatment, and with the marvellous facilities which now exist for extracting metal with little cost, the yield of 3 dwt. per ton will pay its way; but the lowest estimate of my gold ore fixes the yield at 2 oz. per ton. There are lodes in the hills on my property from 20 ft. to 60 ft. wide, and, as I have already said, I consider Wales to be as rich in gold as any other country on the map. My operations have exposed hundreds of thousands, if not millions of pounds' worth of ore, and the gold is of an exceptionally good quality, realising £3 12s. 6d. per ounce. I have 300 acres around the house; but at the mines I own either in free-hold or leasehold something like 4000. The whole of the neighbouring land has been taken up by a syndicate, over which, however, I have a controlling power. At the back of this ring is the strongest living financier." Mr. Morgan further stated that he had several American and Australian surveyors prospecting in all parts of Wales. The question as to the rights of the Crown had, he said, been satisfactorily dealt with.

Mr. J. Berger Spence, F.R.S., F.R.G.S., 31, Lombard-street, in a letter to the Times on the gold deposits, says:—"A short A correspondent, who has visited the North Wales mines

prospecting in all parts of Wales. The question as to the rights of the Crown had, he said, been satisfactorily dealt with.

Mr. J. Berger Spence, F.R.S., F.R.G.S., 31, Lombard-street, in a letter to the Times on the gold deposits, says:—"A short time ago I made a visit to the beautiful valley of the Mawddach, in North Wales, with the object of investigating the subject of gold in that district; and, in order to obtain as comprehensive a view of the question as possible, I did not confine myself to any particular mine or deposit, but extended my operations over an area of twenty-five to thirty square miles which may be said to abound in gold-bearing rock, and whence I procured my samples, which I had assayed in my laboratory with results, in most cases, of gold far exceeding the yield of some of the best paying mines of Australia and America. No doubt, if these deposits are worked systematically and scientifically, there is a great future for Welsh gold-mining; and as Mr. Pritchard-Morgan appears to be working in this direction, the great practical test will be in the actual returns of bar gold on a large scale, which will doubtless be forthcoming before long. . . . There is no reason to doubt that that district may become one of the most important of its kind in the world, and give employment to great numbers of people who are sorely in want of it at the present time. Since my return I have had an opportunity of discussing this subject with Mr. William Crookes, who has visited the district, and whose metallurgical reputation stands second to none, and also with Mr. Readwin, who has a thorough knowledge of the geological formation; and the conclusions which these gentlemen have arrived at will, I think, fully corroborate what I have stated."

The Commander-in-Chief has awarded £120 in prizes to eight nor ionea omcers and Artillery for skill at arms.

The third of six evening lectures on "Raphael Sanzio" was given at Steinway Hall, on Dec. 14, by Mr. T. Matesdorf, the subject being the First Vatican Stanza.

The Bradford Town Council have determined to carry out The Bradford Town Council have determined to carry out a scheme for supplying electric light to the public buildings and to those firms in the business part of the town who require the light. The present expenditure for that purpose is limited to £15,000, and it is estimated that the cost to the private consumer will be just double the cost of gas. The electric cables will be laid underground.

electric cables will be laid underground.

The British Chess Association Masters' Tournament terminated on Dec. 8 in a tie between Messrs. Burn and Gunsberg for the two principal prizes. The players met at the British Chess Club on Monday, Dec. 12, to play the first game in the tie match, the conditions of which are—the first winner of two games to be declared the first prizeman. The game was keenly contested for upwards of fifty moves, and proved to be one of the most interesting in the Masters' Tourney. Towards the end of the game Mr. Burn obtained a strong attack by sacrificing the exchange, after which combination Mr. Gunsberg was compelled, in a few more moves, to strike his flag. berg was compelled, in a few more moves, to strike his flag. The second game was played on Tuesday, and resulted in a draw.

THE PLAYHOUSES.

It has been a week of benefits and revivals. Miss Kate Phillips has been presented with a benefit because she has been seriously ill. Mr. Charles Warner has been presented with a testimonial because he is popular, and is on the eve of sailing testimonial because he is popular, and is on the eve of sailing for Australia. The lady received a cheque for £450, the result of the Haymarket matinée; the gentleman will start for the Antipodes richer by £500 and more, the happy result of the rıllying round of his friends at Drury-Lane. The enormous success of these two benefits emphatically proves that the playgoing public knows a good programme when it is presented to them. No prior engagement, no daily work, no regular occupation keeps them out of stalls, gallery, circle, or pit, when they can see in one morning all the best actors and actresses in London at ordinary playhouse prices. Why, when Mr. Warner took his benefit, the pit was as crammed as it is on Boxing Night, and there was not a seat vacant anywhere. Where all these people come from, how they can get away from their these people come from, how they can get away from their work to sit in a theatre from luncheon to tea time—one to six—must for ever remain a mystery. However, there they were; and the happy result was a "little cheque" for Mr. Warner, who sets sail with the consciousness that he has troops Warner, who sets sail with the consciousness that he has troops of friends, and that his pretty young daughter has made a very promising début on the stage in the balcony-scene of "Romeo and Juliet." This graceful and charming girl has been excellently taught, and it would be difficult for anyone to read or emphasise the lines of Juliet better than she did. Encouraged by her father, who played Romeo, she acquitted herself remarkably well, and it is quite certain that we shall hear of Miss Grace Warner again.

Some remarks have recently been offered on the subject of actors taking benefits who are supposed to be in good circumstances, and, at first sight, the objections sound plausible enough. No doubt the benefit system is often abused, as Mr. Bancroft is No doubt the benefit system is often abused, as Mr. Bancroft is never tired of telling us. But there is really nothing to call in question regarding either of these benefits. If certain actors and actresses choose to perform for the benefit of a sister or a brother artist, it is their concern. If Mrs. Kendal, Mrs. Bernard Beere, Mr. Beerbohm-Tree, eum multis aliis, are disposed to give up two afternoons in one week in order to show compassion for Miss Phillips, or friendship for Mr. Warner, why should the fact irritate a certain section of the public and press? The public must be the gainer, as they are able to sit out an excellent programme. The benefit to Miss Phillips was a token of sympathy, to Mr. Warner of respect. When curates are made rectors, or when vicars change their livings, they are occasionally presented with a piece of plate. There is nothing so very derogatory in this. In nine cases out of ten a purse of sovereigns is attached to the testimonial, and no one thinks any the worse of the clergyman for accepting it. Why, then, should there be a fuss because the professional brethren of Mr. the worse of the clergyman for accepting it. Why, then, should there be a fuss because the professional brethren of Mr. should there be a fuss because the professional brethren of Mr. Warner choose to make him a present before he leaves England? for it is wholly due to the co-operation of the actors and actresses that such large sums are realised. There is no proof of any coercion. They all offer their services cheerfully, and if the public don't like the entertainment they can stay away. On the contrary, they do like it; they come, and, what is more, they thoroughly enjoy themselves without entertaining much symmethy or friendship for the immediate cause of the entertain. sympathy or friendship for the immediate cause of the enter-

sympathy or Triendship for the immediate cause of the enter-tainment. They do not look a gift horse in the mouth any more than Mr. Warner does.

On each of these occasions Mrs. Kendal has very generously given her services, and greatly to the satisfaction of her audi-ences has recited from the poems of Mr. G. R. Sims. The ences has recited from the poems of Mr. G. R. Sims. The author of these poems makes no unreasonable demand when he asks the favour of being mentioned at the time of the recital. This simple courtesy is almost invariably neglected. No one ever knows the name of poem or author. Now, considering that there is no copyright in poems for recitation, that they cannot be protected, and that they are often as popular as plays, the least an actor or actress can do is to mention the fact that they are not the authors of the poem, as they would have the audience believe. It is just possible that someone in a huge audience might take a fancy to "Ostler Joe" or "One Winter Night;" it is not improbable that the same someone might care to read the poems again in print, and to pass them on to winter Night; 'It is not improbable that the same some thing are care to read the poems again in print, and to pass them on to others to enjoy. 'Why not tell them, then, of the "Dagonet Ballads" or the "Ballads of Babylon"? For, strange as it may appear, people who write live by their books as well as by their plays. If it is worth while to mention the name of a reciter it is equally worth while to make allusion to the poem

reciter it is equally worth while to make allusion to the poem and its source.

The first of the important revivals is that at the St. James's Theatre, where "Lady Clancarty," by Tom Taylor, is acted better than it has ever been acted before. Mr. Kendal is seen to far greater advantage than at the outset. He has mastered the Irish brogue, he insists upon emphasising every bit of comedy that he can squeeze out of the character and is now thoroughly at home in it. Mr. Mackintosh, who was at first so very good as King William, is now far too loud, and he seems to have missed or forgotten all the delicate points that he originally suggested. The country tour has not done him good, for a bawling King William is inconsistent with the feeble, asthmatic invalid that the author sketched for us. Miss Blanche Horlock is a pretty and piquant Lady Batty, but she must improve her elocution, and at once. Mr. Lewis Waller has been added to the company, and the old play is so well mounted and so sumptuously dressed that it seems destined for another long run. It may be hoped that in the next revival there will be a place for Mr. John Hare, who is too good and popular an actor to be so often shelved at his own theatre.

"The Two Roses" has turned out a great success at the Criterion, in spite of the sinister sneers of those who would banish imagination and all ideal work from the modern stage. There are, surely, sufficient murderers in frock-coats, cultured cutthroats, and overdressed demi-mondaines to be seen elsewhere.

are, surely, sufficient murderers in frock-coats, cultured cut-throats, and overdressed demi-mondaines to be seen elsewhere, without necessitating the removal of Mr. Albery's bright, well-written, and charming play. Death has made sad havoc with the original cast. The two roses, Amy Fawsett and Nelly Newton, are both dead; Harry Montague, the irresistible, has long been silent; George Honey will make an audience laugh no more. But still it does not follow that because the playgoers of 1870 have pleasant memories of the original cast that, therefore, the present one is to be laughed to scorn. It may be reasonably thought that we shall never have another Digby Grant like Henry Irving, or another Jack so frank and fascinating as Harry Montague, or a Caleb Deecie so peculiarly fascinating as Harry Montague, or a Caleb Deecie so peculiarly sensitive and subtle as Mr. Thomas Thorne; but, on the other hand, many prefer the "Our Mr. Jenkins" of David James to that of George Honey, and surely Mr. Furnivall, the solicitor, has never been played better than by Mr. Blakeley? Mr. William Farren gets out of the Digby Grant difficulty remarkably well on the whole, though he is always seen to greater advantage in old comedies than in modern plays. As a light comedian at the Haymarket years ago he was never quite a success, and "young Farren" never turned out a good actor until he was "old Farren." The two girls so delightfully drawn by Mr. Albery find the happiest and prettiest representatives in Miss Maude Millett and Miss Annie Hughes, and doubtless both Mr. Sydney Brough and Mr. George Giddens will play Jack and Caleb better than they did on the first night of the

revival. The scampering over the words by Mr. Brough was no doubt due to extreme nervousness. This is a delightful specimen of modern English comedy, with its alternate summer showers of tears and laughter, and it is a wholesome antidote to the

of tears and laughter, and it is a wholesome antidote to the feverish actualities that are supposed to amuse the public.

That old favourite, Mr. J. L. Toole, has come back to London after an unusually successful run round the provinces, and he will play a short season of "The Butler" until Mr. and Mrs. Merivale are ready with their new comedy that is highly spoken of. An excellent part in it has been written for Miss Kate Phillips, who has returned to Lavinia Muddle, the part she was compelled to resign in the summer owing to severe illness. Mr. Toole and his clever little company had a cordial reception, the house was crowded, and the Butler made an amusing speech about a coat he had lost coming back from Brighton, which, of course, contained a rough draught of the Brighton, which, of course, contained a rough draught of the words Mr. Toole intended to say. Mr. Toole is allowed to chaff in his own fashion. People do not care what he says so long as they can hear him saying it.

MUSIC.

The Monday evening and Saturday afternoon Popular Concerts at St. James's Hall are fully sustaining the interest of their programmes, although these have recently offered less of novelty than usual. New works on a large scale by composers of the present day so seldom prove to possess more than fugitive interest that frequent repetitions of acknowledged standard compositions by classical masters of the past are far preferable to experiments which leave so few results. This week's evening programme comprised instrumental pieces that can never tire by repetition when rendered as they are at these concerts. Beethoven's string quartet in F, No. 1 of the set dedicated to Count Rasonmowski, was worthily rendered by Madame Norman-Néruda, Mr. Ries, Herr Straus, and Signor Piatti, the first and last named of these artists having been Piatti, the first and last named of these artists having been associated with Mdlle. Janotha in Haydn's pianoforte trio in G. The two ladies also co-operated in Schumann's sonata in A minor for piano and violin; Mdlle. Janotha's solo having been Chopin's fantasia in F minor. At the previous Saturday afternoon concert Miss Agnes Zimmermann played, with careful execution, Schumann's elaborate "Etudes Symphoniques" for piano solo, and joined Madame Néruda in Greig's sonata in F, for piano and violin. Other instrumental items call for no remark. The vocalist on each occasion was Mr. Lloyd, who sang with his usual great effect.

The third of the new series of Mr. John Boosev's London.

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The third of the new series of Mr. John Boosey's London Ballad Concerts, at St. James's Hall, included the first appearance this season of the eminent pianist, M. De Pachmann, who played with special effect a mazurka by Chopin and Henselt's "Poëme d'Amour." Violin solos were contributed by Madame Norman-Néruda. A varied selection of vocal music included three successful new songs—Mr. W. Austin's setting of Longfellow's "Blind Bartimeus," rendered by Mr. Santley; Mr. H. J. Edwards's "The Beautiful City," sung by Mr. E. Lloyd; and Mr. Molloy's "Drifting Down the River," by Mdme. Antoinette Sterling. The choir specially associated with these concerts, and directed by Mr. Josiah Booth, continues to be a welcome feature, and its performances manifest improvement. welcome feature, and its performances manifest improvement.

concerts, and directed by Mr. Josiah Booth, continues to be a welcome feature, and its performances manifest improvement.

On Thursday evening, Dec. 8, performances were given by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society in the great Kensington building, and by the Sacred Harmonic Society at St. James's Hall. Haydn's "Creation" was performed in the first-named instance, and Sir Arthur Sullivan's cantata, "The Golden Legend," in the other case. Brief notice of both will suffice. Haydn's melodious and graceful music will always please in occasional repetition, although it cannot compare in sublimity with the grander oratorios of Handel and Mendelssohn. The work referred to was excellently rendered at the Albert Hall; the soprano solos charmingly sung by Madame Albani, who was well supported by Mr. C. Wade and Mr. Bridson, respectively in the tenor and bass music. The fine choruses were admirably rendered by the immense choir; "The heavens are telling" and "The Lord is great" having proved especially effective. The many repetitions that Sir Arthur Sullivan's fine cantata has received during the comparatively short period that has elapsed since its first production (at the Leeds Festival in October, 1886), testify to the great and genuine impression the work has made. In the performance now referred to, the important tenor solo music of Prince Henry was again finely rendered—as at Leeds—by Mr. E. Lloyd: Miss Ama Williams gave the soprano music of Elsie with good effect, and Miss Hope Glenn and Mr. Pierpoint were thoroughly efficient, respectively, in the music of Ursula and Lucifer, the gentleman having suddenly replaced Mr. W. Mills, who and Miss Hope Glenn and Mr. Pierpoint were thoroughly efficient, respectively, in the music of Ursula and Lucifer, the gentleman having suddenly replaced Mr. W. Mills, who was indisposed. Mr. Cummings conducted. During the evening the Dead March in "Saul" was played, in memory of Sir G. A. Macfarren, and the chorus "Remember not, Lord, our offences," from his oratorio "King David," was sung.

The celebrated Heckmann quartet performers gave the second of their new series of concerts at Prince's Hall on Dec. 9, when their programme included a quartet by Sgambati in which there is considerable originality of treatment; a similar work by Rheinberger, and that by Schubert in G major, one of his finest productions of the kind.

The last but one of the Crystal Palace Saturday afternoon concerts before Christmas took place on Dec. 10, when Herr Stavenhagen gave a very artistic rendering of Beethoven's pianoforte concerto in C minor, besides playing unaccompanied solos. More or less familiar orchestral pieces were effectively rendered, and Mr. Santley contributed two songs. The concert on Dec. 17 will be appropriated to a performance of Mr. Cowen's oratorio "Ruth." Mr. Henry Holmes conducted.

on Dec. 17 will be appropriated to a performance of Mr. Cowen's oratorio "Ruth." Mr. Henry Holmes conducted.

The fourth of the London Symphony Concerts at St. James's Hall contained no point of novelty, but was of substantial and varied interest. Mendelssohn's overture to "Ruy Blas," Beethoven's eighth symphony (in F), Grieg's melody "Spring" for stringed instruments (introduced at a previous concert), and a "Slavic Dance" by Dvorák, were well given by the excellent band conducted by Mr. Henschel; the instrumental selection having also included Chopin's second pianoforte concerto (in F minor), very finely played by Mdlle. Janotha. The vocal music consisted only of Berlioz's "Réverie" for contralto, entitled "La Captive," expressively sung by Miss Lena Little. At the fifth concert (last Tuesday evening, Dec. 13), the programme included the solemn Good-Friday music from Wagner's "Parsifal," the closing and most advanced of the series of opera-dramas by the deceased composer. The profound religious tone of the music of this work, especially in the extract just referred to, renders it more fitted for concert-room use than is generally the case with music originally intended for stage purposes. The important solo passages for Parsifal and Gurnemanz were assigned at Tuesday's concert respectively to Herr O. Niemann and Mr. Henschel, the former gentleman having made his first appearance in England on the occasion. He is a son of the eminent tenor, Albert Niemann, who gained great celebrity in Germany in various operatic performances, including those of the heroes of Wagner's operas, and who appeared with marked success in the German opera season at her Majesty's Theatre in the heroes of Wagner's operas, and who appeared with marked success in the German opera season at her Majesty's Theatre in 1882. The son met with a favourable reception last Tuesday,

when he displayed a tenor voice of agreeable quality, which when he displayed a tenor voice of agreeable quanty, which he used with appropriate subdued expression and devotional feeling. The passages belonging to Gurnemanz were effectively declaimed by Mr. Henschel. The concert opened with Brahms's "Tragic" overture, and the programme included Schumann's symphony in C, classed as No. 2; violoncello soles by Signor Piatti; lieder, assigned to Herr O. Niemann; and a "March Slave" by the Russian composer, Tschaikowsky. Wagner's music was conducted by Mr. Barnby, other portions of the concert having been directed, as usual, by Mr. Henschel.

The Rayal Academy of Music will give a performance of

The Royal Academy of Music will give a performance of Sir G. A. Macfarren's oratorio, "St. John the Baptist," at St. James's Hall, this (Saturday) evening, Dec. 17, in memory of the deceased composer, who was principal of the institution institution

just named.

The Royal College of Music gave an orchestral concert at Prince's Hall on Saturday evening, Dec. 10, when the progress made by students was satisfactorily demonstrated in several instances, among them being the skilful violin and pianoforte performances respectively of Mr. J. Sutcliffe and Miss M. Osborn. The vocal performances, solo and choral, were also very satisfactory. Osborn. The voc very satisfactory.

very satisfactory.

A fund is being raised for the foundation of a Macfarren scholarship at the Royal Academy of Music, in memory of the late Sir G. A. Macfarren, Principal of the Institution, and Professor at Cambridge University. It will be a very fitting tribute to one who was eminent as a musician and universally respected as a man. Subscriptions are received by the acting honorary secretary, Mr. J. P. Baker, Willersley House, Wellington-road, Old Charlton, S.E.

Dr. C. Villiers Stanford has been elected to the Professorship of Music at Cambridge University, in succession to the late Sir G. A. Macfarren. The appointment is one that must meet with general approval, Dr. Stanford being beyond doubt the one who should have been chosen both on account of his admitted eminence as a musician, and his long previous connection with the University.

The Strolling Players' amateur orchestral society gave an evening concert—the first of a new series—at St. James's Hall, on Dec. 10, under the direction of Mr. N. Megone. The performances, if not equal in all respects to those of professional artists, were above the usual amateur level.—In the competition at the Royal Academy of Music for the Sainton-Dolly prize there were twenty-one candidates, and the prize was awarded to Julia Neilson.—Madame Dukas (Miss Louisa Van Noorden) and her pupils gave an evening concert on Dec. 13 at Prince's Hall, Piccadilly, in aid of St. Mary's Hospital. awarded to Julia Neilson.—Madame Dukas (Miss Louisa Van Noorden) and her pupils gave an evening concert on Dec. 13 at Prince's Hall, Piccadilly, in aid of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington.—Musical hygienic exercises were given by members of the Misses Chreiman and Eva Chreiman's Kensington classes at the Townhall, on Dec. 15. At the Townhall, Kensington, on Dec. 16, the Kensington Orchestral and Choral Society gave Barnett's "Ancient Mariner" and a selection.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

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The will (dated Feb. 27, 1884), with three codicils (dated Ang. 12, and Dec. 7, 1886; and July 30, 1887), of Mrs. Harriet Priscilla Elford Macaulay, the widow of Mr. Kenneth Macaulay, Q.C., late of No. 28, Kensington-gate, who died on Oct. 10 last, was proved on Nov. 29 by the Rev. George Ley Woollcombe and Richard Woollcombe, the executors, the value of the personal estate exceeding £70,000. The testatrix gives £500 to the Plymouth Dispensary, and very numerous legacies to relatives and servants. The residue of her real and personal estate she leaves, as to half thereof, to the Rev. George Ley Woollcombe, and the remaining half between the Rev. William Wyatt and Kenneth Macaulay Woollcombe in equal shares.

The will (dated Feb. 5, 1875), with two codicils (dated

Wyatt and Kenneth Macaulay Woollcombe in equal shares.

The will (dated Feb. 5, 1875), with two codicils (dated Feb. 10, 1877, and Feb. 24, 1882), of Miss Charlotte Emmeline Bowen, formerly of Weston-super-Mare, and Pau, Basses Pyrénées, but late of Werescote, Wellington, Somerset, who died on Oct. 27 last, was proved on Nov. 19 by Robert Bowen and John Bradley, two of the executors, the value of the personal estate exceeding £49,000, The testatrix bequeaths £5500 to her sister, Sabina Bowen Bowen; £100 to the National Refuge for Homeless and Destitute Children, No. 8, Great Queen-street; and legacies to relatives. The residue Great Queen-street; and legacies to relatives. The residue of her real and personal estate, including her estates in Jamaica, she leaves to her nephew, Robert Bowen, absolutely.

Jamaica, she leaves to her nephew, Røbert Bowen, absolutely.

The will (dated Jan. 9, 1884), with a codicil (dated Jan. 17, 1885), of Miss Frances Blundell, late of No. 3, Berkeley-square, who died on Sept. 28 last, at Harrogate, was proved on Nov. 30 by Mr. Walter Weld, one of the executors, the value of the personal estate exceeding £32,000. The testatrix gives £5000 to each of her brothers, John, Charles, and Nieholas Blundell, £3000 to her said executor, £800 to her godchild Clare Weld Blundell; £500 to each of her nieces, Mary Agnes, Louisa, Charlotte, and Mary Blundell, and her nephews, Arthur and Joseph Blundell; and £200 each to the Catholic Poor Schools at Little Crosby, in the county, Palatine of Lancashire, the Superior of the Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm-street, Berkeley-square, and the Catholic Poor ception, Farm-street, Berkeley-square, and the Catholic Poor-School in connection with the Catholic Church of the Assumption, Warwick-street, Berkeley-square. The residue of her property she leaves to her niece Mary Agnes Blundell,

absolutely.

The will (dated July 20, 1885) of Mr. Augustus Sussex Milbank, late of No. 2, Cleveland-row, St. James's, who died on April 10 last, at Monte Carlo, was proved on Dec. 2, by Powlett Charles John Milbank, the nephew, the sole executor, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £12,000. The testator bequeaths to his Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor of Wales (in accordance with his promise to him), the "Royal watch," of curious make and revolving face, given to testator by his godfather, the late Duke of Sussex, and the long turquoise chain given by Marie Antoinette, Queen of France, at Versailles, in 1786, to his grandfather the Duke of Cleveland, then Lord Barnard. He gives to the president of the mess for the time being of the 2nd Life Guards, in trust for mess for the time being of the 2nd Life Guards, in trust for the officers for the time being of that regiment, his albums, the omcers for the time being of that regiment, his abunds, being valuable from a military point of view, and especially the "Imperial Album," late the property of the Emperor of Austria, together with the gold key to unlock the treasures contained therein. The residue of his property he leaves to contained therein. The residue of his prohis nephew, Powlett Charles John Milbank.

his nephew, Powlett Charles John Milbank.

The will (dated May 15, 1876), with two codicils (dated April 8, 1880, and May 2, 1883), of Mr. John Graham Smith, formerly of No. 84, Piccadilly, afterwards of No. 37, Fulbam Park-gardens, but late of the Priory, Roehampton, who died on July 25 last, was proved on Dec. 2 by Charles James Graham and Hugh Graham Smith, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £22,000. The testator bequeaths £300 to Elizabeth Wilkinson. The residue of his property he leaves, upon trust, to pay the income to his sisters, Isabella Whitmore and Mary Ann Wilson, for their lives, and on their deaths the capital to their children.

Mr. Henry Curtis Bennett has been appointed a Magistrate at Clerkenwell Police-Court, in the place of the late Mr. Hosack.

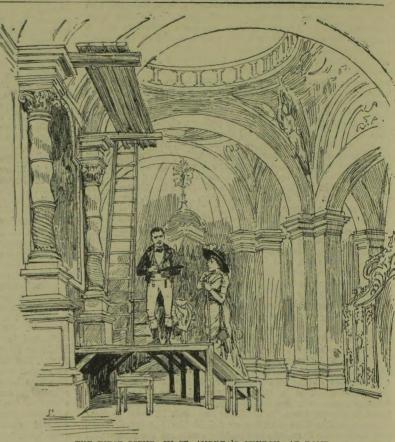
SARAH BERNHARDT IN "LA TOSCA."

The Porte-St.-Martin theatre in Paris is celebrated for sensational melodramatic plays; and M. Sardou, one of the most accomplished of French dramatists, has applied his great talent, with unrestricted *abandon*, to the concection of a plot



SCARPIA SHOWING THE FAN TO LA TOSCA.

abounding in horrors, which gives enormous scope to the histrionic powers of Sarah Bernhardt. The story, which is purely imaginary and contrary to historical fact, is laid in Rome at the time of Napoleon's victory of Marengo, when it is supposed that the Papal Government was practising incredible excesses of vindictive cruelty on the Italian Republicans. "La Tosca" is the popular designation of a famous opera-singer, who is in love with the Cavaliere Mario Cavaradossi, an eminent painter, half French by parentage. Mario is at work alone, decorating a chapel in the well-known church of St. Andrea, when a young Neapolitan political refugee, Cesare Angelotti, enters the church and implores his assistance. He has just escaped from the Castle of St. Angelo, by the aid of his sister, the Marchesa Altavanti, and is pursued by the "sbirri" or police, under the direction of Baron Scarpia, their official chief, who is a monster of iniquity. He is disguised as a woman in his sister's clothes, and carries that lady's fan. Mario consents to help him, and sends him to a villa belonging to Mario; but, in going out hastily, Cesare leaves the fan behind him. Immediately afterwards, La Tosca, who is jealous, enters the church to speak to her lover Mario. She has seen the seeming lady pass out, and suspects that a female rival has been with Mario; she recognises a likeness to the Marchesa in the principal figure of his painting. After some complaint and altercation, she departs; then comes Baron Scarpia, with his armed policemen, in search of Cesare. The fan is carried off by Scarpia, who uses it for his own base purposes. Having a design on La Tosca's virtue, he shows her the fan, which she knows had belonged to the Marchesa, and persuades



THE FIRST SCENE, IN ST. ANDREA'S CHURCH, AT ROME.



LA TOSCA, AFTER KILLING SCARPIA, PLACING THE CRUCIFIX AND CANDLES AROUND HIS BODY.



LA TOSCA LISTENING WHILE MARIO IS TORTURED.



LA TOSCA WITH MARIO ON HIS PAINTING SCAFFOLD.

La Tosca that Mario is false to her. In the mean-time, the police are on the track of Cesare, and search for him in Mario's villa, where he is hidden at the bottom of a dry well. La Tosca, coming to reproach her unfaithful lover, is told by him, in explan-ation, of the concealment of Cesare on the pre-mises. Mario is arrested by the police, and, re-fusing to answer their questions about the fugi-tive, is tortured by screwing a pointed framework of steel tightly compressed over his temples and fore-head. La Tosca is in the adjoining room, listening at the closed door to his dreadful shrieks and groans. She reveals the secret, but the police now find that Cesare is dead, having taken cesare is dead, having taken poison. Mario is then condemned to be shot; but the wicked Scarpia offers to spare his life, on certain infamous conditions. She, believing that these orders are given, when Scarpia next approaches her, stabs him; then she lays a crucifix on his breast and sets lighted candles beside the body. Mario has been put to death; she has to drown herself in the Tiber.



MARIO BIDDING FAREWELL TO LA TOSCA BEFORE HIS EXECUTION.



ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC: TAKING THE VOTES IN THE CONGRESS OF SENATORS AND DEPUTIES.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY PRIZES.

On Saturday the distribution of prizes to the Art Students of the Royal Academy took place at Burlington House, and according to custom in alternate years, the award of the Academy gold medals and studentship was followed by the Presidential address. Sir Frederick Leighton, on this occasion, resumed his survey of the development of Italian art at the point at which he had left off two years ago. He showed the great warm of the Repressance movement, partly point at which he had left off two years ago. He showed how the great wave of the Renaissance movement, partly literary, partly artistic, which had broken over Italy finally, and in many cases speedily, died away in the gentle ripples of some local school. The President's sympathies, as might be expected from his work, are confined to the Tuscan and (in a more undefined degree) to the Venetian schools. The sense of colour and richness, which had been brought to Italy from the East, lingered longer in the "City of the Waters" than in any other part of the peninsula, extending its influence far and wide in every direction. For the Tuscan school, however. wide in every direction. For the Tuscan school, however, the President claimed the special recognition of his hearers, as having distinguished itself amongst all its rivals by nobility of purpose and elevation of thought. Not only the great masters of the Florentine school, but their precursors and their followers, had never lent themselves to pandering to sordid tastes, or prostituted their talents to the lower sentiments of humanity. For this, if for no other reason, he commended it to the study and admiration of his hearers, whom, by a considerable stretch of imagination, he regarded as the rising

considerable stretch of imagination, he regarded as the rising hopes of the English school.

Like everything which proceeds from the President's hands or lips, this "Discourse on Painting" was highly finished, full of delicate suggestions, and marked by careful criticism. A few stray words seemed to indicate, rather than to limit, the bounds of his admiration or his dislike; but, taken as a whole, they were rather those of the historian than of the critic, and as such will, some day, doubtless find their place on the already well-stocked book-shelves of every art library. But for the immediate purpose of the gathering, we could But for the immediate purpose of the gathering, we could wish that the President had chosen a text nearer to our own times, and shown more obviously to his hearers the aims own times, and shown more obviously to his hearers the aims and failures of modern art. In the two years which elapse between the recurrence of these discourses the death-roll of distinguished artists at home and abroad is generally long enough to furnish subjects for such a theme, without wounding the susceptibilities of living men. We cannot but think that were these addresses made a little more personal they would become also more practical, and that the rising of the President would not be the signal for a general stampede on the part of those for whom they are specially intended. It is, however, impossible to ignore the fact that the distribution of the Academy Prizes is now recognised among the "society" the Academy Prizes is now recognised among the "society" events of the winter season, and the result is that the places which should be occupied by art-students are filled by fashionable or cultured ladies, who consider it a duty to be present at gatherings of this nature. The occasional introduction of appeals to his "young friends" showed for whom the President was, by tradition, supposed to frame his discourse; but its subject and method of treatment suggested that it was, in reality, destined for that numerous body of seekers after intellected nearly showers who are uppelled to receive instruction. intellectual nourishment, who are unable to receive instruction in a less digestible form than the "pemmican" of a well-

prepared lecture. To pass from the address to the prizes and the competitive works exhibited, we cannot refrain from remarking on the greater range of imagination displayed by the students—a far more hopeful sign for the future than mere technical facility. It would seem, moreover, from the awards of the judges that this point has received fuller appreciation than usual at their hands. Another noticeable point is the excellence of some few of the competitors in more than one branch. For instance, few of the competitors in more than one branch. For instance, it is very rarely that the gold medal with the travelling studentship given for historical painting and the Turner gold medal and scholarship award for landscape painting should fall to the same student as happened this year. Mr. Arthur T. Nowell, who is thus distinguished, will doubtless make his mark, especially when, after a few years of study and travel, he has found out how far his own powers will carry him in each line. At present we think his "Sunset after Storm," with its bold colouring of black and red clouds, more indicative of his success as a landscapist than his somewhat comtive of his success as a landscapist than his somewhat com-plicated treatment of the "Captives," in which a double story seems to be involved—the fate of the man bound to the tree, and his relations with the damsel who so eagerly seeks his freedom. Mr. C. W. Bartlett, whose work obtained a well-merited "proxime accessif," chose the more hackneyed rendering of a group of British or Gaulish captives on the steps of a Roman temple. The Creswick prize—which is also limited to landscape painting, and had for given subject this year "An Old Water-Mill"—was won by Mr. S. B. Carlill, who is also the winner of the second prize for a set of six drawings from the life; whilst in point of numbers of distinctions Mr. W. F. Littler surpasses all others by winning the second silver medal for a "life" figure, the first Armitage prize and bronze medal for a design in monochrome, and the third prize for a set of six drawings of a figure from the life. The gold medal and travelling studentship for sculpture is awarded to Mr. G. J. Frampton, for his composition, "An Act of Mercy"; whilst Mr. William Goscombe John, the holder of the Landseer scholarship for sculpture, was awarded the first prize for his ing of a group of British or Gaulish captives on the steps of a scholarship for sculpture, was awarded the first prize for his set of three models of a figure from the life, and a similar distinction for a design in clay, "An Episode of the Deluge." The gold medal and travelling studentship for architecture was carried off by Mr. R. Weir Schultz, with his design for a was carried on by Mr. R. Well schools, with his design for a railway terminus, where things seem to go more smoothly than in those of daily life. The other principal awards for painting were—first silver medals to Miss Minnie Shubrook, Mr. A. C. Cooke, Mr. J. W. West, and Miss Edith Cooper; second silver medals to Miss Maud Porter, Mr. T. H. Jones, Mr. H. J. Draper (Landseer scholar), Miss M. C. Abercrombie and for architectural drawings, first silver medals to Mr. J. Rollins, Mr. A. Lucchesi, and Mr. Percy N. Ginham; and second silver medals to Mr. J. N. Forsyth and Mr. C. J. Allen. In addition, numerous money prizes were awarded in the different sections; but it is worthy to remark, possibly by reason of the progress of photographic reproduction, that for the gold medal offered for the best line-engraving of a figure there was no

The Queen has forwarded a cheque for £20 towards the fund that is being raised at Croydon by the Whitgift governors, for the restoration of Archbishop Whitgift's tomb in that town.

Our contemporary Land and Water is giving in a series of weekly supplements facsimiles of photographic representations, done in unfading ink, of hounds of the British Islands, the first supplements in the first supplements. the first supplement appearing on Dec. 10, and representing "The Royal Buckhounds."

The annual meeting of the constituents of the Hospital Sunday Fund was held on Dec. 12 at the Guildhall, the Lord Mayor presiding. The report of the council stated that the amount collected in 1887 was £40,399, and that the total amount available for distribution was £39,125. Hospital Sunday for 1888 was fixed for June 10.

THE RECESS.

The Prime Minister forsakes the hospitable roof of Hatfield on the Nineteenth of December, and caps the ante-Christmas oratory by taking the Derby stronghold of Sir William Harcourt by storm. Mr. Gladstone in the meanwhile prepares for the celebration of his seventy-eighth birthday at Hawarden Castle on the Twenty-ninth of December, after which it is said to be the intention of the marvellously hale and energetic statesman to proceed to the Mediterranean in order, presumably, to put the finishing touch on his training for the coming Session of Parliament. That this will probably be a fighting Session is facetiously indicated in Mr. Harry Furniss's apt Punch drawing of our leading politicians indulging in the strange boxing mania brought about by the irruption of American pugilists of the type of J. L. Sullivan.

Hardwicke Hall reminds us it is the unexpected that often happens in politics. Who, that remembers the way in which Lord Hartington used to scowl from the Treasury bench at the audacious leader of the "Fourth Party," would have imagined that Lord Randolph Churchill would this week be the guest of the noble Marquis at Hardwicke Hall?

The continued solidarity of the Conservative and Liberal Unionist parties was amply proved by the very influential conference held under the presidency of Lord Hartington in the Westminster Townhall, on the Eighth of December, and graced by the presence of personages as eminent as Lord Selborne, Lord Derby, the Duke of Argyll, the Duke of Westminster, Lord Northbrook, the Duke of Grafton, Lord Monk-Bretton, Lord Morley, and the Earl of Fife. It was made clear by the emphatic speeches of Lord Hartington, Lord Selborne, and other shining lights, that the breach between the Liberal Unionists and the Liberal Home Rulers is now wider than it was last year. The noble Marquis candidly owned this fact, and emphasised it by declaring that, until the proposal of an Irish Parliament be absolutely abandoned, the Liberal Unionists must remain a separate organisation.

Unionists must remain a separate organisation.

The challenge thus thrown out (to the chorus of enthusiastic cheers) was soon taken up. Sir George Trevelyan opened the ball on the Twelfth at Sunderland by twitting Liberal Unionists on their "distinct retrogression." But, unfortunately, neither in Sir George Trevelyan's indubitably earnest speeches, nor in Earl Granville's lively address the next day at the Eighty Club (where his Lordship in his delightfully humorous manner compared Lord Selborne to that "charming species of angel so beautifully painted by Murillo"—the cherubim, "whose only deficiency was that they had nothing particular to sit upon"); nor in Lord Rosebery's similarly vivacious Oldham speech on the Thirteenth, was there any suggestion as to how a statesmanlike compromise may be brought about with regard to the vexatious Irish there any suggestion as to how a statesmanlike compromise may be brought about with regard to the vexatious Irish Difficulty. In a rather flowery quotation the Earl of Rosebery said—"Meanwhile Freedom weeps, Wrong rules the land, and Waiting Justice sleeps." The Government and Liberal Unionists, on their side, reply that License must not be confounded with Liberty, and that Justice does but uphold the majesty of the law. Rely on us as Champions of Liberty, responded Mr. Labouchere and Mr. Bradlaugh at Northampton, on the Thirteenth. While Doctors thus agree to differ, patient John Bull is the sufferer.

THE FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

The election, on Dec. 3, of a new President of the Republic was performed by the Congress of united members of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, as prescribed by the Constitution of the Republic, in a quiet and regular manner, at Versailles. Eight hundred and fifty-two Senators and Deputies attended, out of the total eight hundred and eight fringe. M. Le was decorated with crimson drapery, with a gold fringe. M. Le Royer presided, having beside him M. Sorel, Secretary-General to the President of the Senate, and M. Pierre, Secretary-General to the President of the Senate, and M. Pierre, Secretary-General to the President of the Chamber of Deputies. The members were called up by name, in alphabetical order, and each of them, ascending the raised platform by the steps on the left hand, deposited his voting-paper in the ballot-urn, and passed down by the steps to the right hand. The first ballot was taken, with the following result:—Sadi Carnot, 303; Ferry, 212; General Saussier, 148; De Freycinet, 76; General Appert, 72; Brisson, 26; Floquet, 5; Anatole de la Forge, 2; Félix Pyat, 2; Pasteur, 2; Spuller, 1. The sitting being suspended for three quarters of an hour, the Moderates held a meeting, at which M. Ferry announced his retirement, for the sake of discipline and union, and urged his friends to vote for M. Carnot. Accordingly, on re-entering the hall, M. Ferry went and shook hands with M. Carnot. M. De Freycinet presently followed this example, and the second ballot opened with the certainty of M. Carnot's election. The numbers were:—Sadi Carnot, 616; of M. Carnot's election. The numbers were:—Sadi Carnot, 616; General Saussier, 188; Ferry, 11; De Freycinet, 5; General Appert, 5; Floquet, I; and Félix Pyat, I. The clear majority necessary was 414; so that M. Carnot had 202 in excess. The result was loudly cheered by the Republicans. The Ministers waited on M. Carnot to inform him of his election. The new President's inaugural Message was read to both Houses on Dec. 13. A Ministry was formed by M. Tirard.

THE CROFTERS OF LEWIS.

Our Artist furnishes several additional Sketches of the inhabi-Our Artist furnishes several additional Sketches of the inhabitants of Lewis, "The Lews," the largest island of the Outer or Western Hebrides, some account of which was given last week. The military force, a company of the Royal Scots Regiment, under command of Captain Farquharson, sent to this island three weeks ago, was supported by the presence on its coast of H.M.S. Ajax, with seamen and marines numbering five hundred; but no resistance was offered to the Sheriffs of Rossshire, Layerness, Sutherland, and Cromarty in the execution of shire, Inverness, Sutherland, and Cromarty in the execution of the law. Before their arrival, the discontented crofters and cottars had assumed a riotous and threatening attitude. A troop of nearly two thousand men had assembled and marched, headed by pipers, from the various crofterships of Lochs parish to the Park and Aline deer-forests. Many of them were armed with rifles, and tents, stores, and other baggage were taken with them, intending to pitch their camp on the moun-tains for several weeks, with the object of exterminating the deer. They allege that three fourths of the parish is wasted under deer, while six thousand crofters are starving, portions of the land now under deer having been formerly cultivated The men, having mustered at Seaforth Head. on the Park shooting-ground, proceeded to beat the western portion of the forest, driving and killing deer. The object is declared to be the decimation of the Park shootings, as they expect to secure holdings on the ground should the shootings become valueless. Several of the men declare that sheer processity actuates them, as they have little or no food. Hownecessity actuates them, as they have little or no food. necessity actuates them, as they have little or no food. However, the killing of deer has been stopped, and the deer-stealers were prevented from sending what they had killed away for sale. Some of them have been taken into custody, and are in prison. The Crofter Commissioners are fixing judicial rents, as in Ireland; but a deputation has waited on the Secretary for Scotland, the Marquis of Lothian, urging the need of further measures of relief for the distressed people.

THE LADIES' COLUMN.

Brighton at this time of the year is as attractive as London in "the season." This is due to the smartness of the visitors and the general brightness of the weather, at a time when and the general brightness of the weather, at a time when other places (particularly London) are wrapped in damp or fog. Brighton looks full south, and its chalk site makes it dry and pleasant soon after rain. Very little of the charm of Brighton in early winter is due to effort on the part of the Brighton people. The town is greatly in need of an Etablissement, where, on payment of a small subscription, visitors might resort on wet days: where there should be a reading room and a covered promenade with a really good. visitors might resort on wet days: where there should be a reading-room and a covered promenade, with a really good band playing frequently. Part of the Pavilion buildings might easily be adapted to this use. At present there is nowhere for visitors to go when the state of the weather prevents them from walking on the promenade; and to remain shut up in hotels and lodging-houses all day is decidedly dull. The unrivalled sea-wall, however, extending for nearly three miles, and lined on one hand with palatial residences, while on the other hand, flanked by a singularly wide expanse of sea, is an attraction which the Brightonians apparently rely upon, and not without reason, as counterbalancing the deficiency of means of public amusement.

Hats are being worn here this season by the great majority

Hats are being worn here this season by the great majority ladies. The small shapes retain their ascendancy, the broad brims and puffy-wide crowns that decorate the milliners' windows not being visible on the heads of well-dressed women. Cocks' feather aigrettes are, however, somewhat rampant, the loosely-flowing "rifleman's plumes" fluttering wildly upright in the wind. The combination of black and grey wildly upright in the wind. The combination of black and grey is a leading note in the newest millinery. A pretty bonnet worn by a well-known lady here has an open-fronted and large-crowned "Directoire" shape of grey felt, trimmed only with a cluster of black ostrich tips, and having a small coronet of jet inserted within the pointed brim, so as to rest on the hair, but not entirely to conceal the grey velvet lining of the tall open brim of the chapeau. A simple grey felt hat is trimmed with a band of black ribbon and a grey bird, with black bows, at the front, while two or three of the long and bright feathers of the bird-of-paradise tail form the aigrette, and prevent the hat looking sombre. An original toque is made in grey felt, the crown rising up, as it were, in three steps, gradually narrowing to the top; an aigrette of feathery pink seaweed is the only trimming of the front, and two long ends of shot ribbons, the colours shading from grey to green, hang down the back.

Seal-brown plush is very fashionable for mantles. It looks

Seal-brown plush is very fashionable for mantles. It looks Scal-brown plush is very fashionable for mantles. It looks particularly nice, yet, somehow, I hardly like it; there is about it an air of pretending to be scalskin, and no sham can be counted as really in good taste. Dolmans, short behind and with long ends in front, and sleeves which are elongated into a point, like a jelly-bag, from the elbow (not the wrist)—or short, tight-fitting little jackets, trimmed with a narrow edging of skunk or black bear, and sometimes with loops and harrols and emplettes of brown silk cord—are the garments edging of skunk or black bear, and sometimes with loops and barrels and epaulettes of brown silk cord—are the garments most chic in the seal plush. Long coats of that fabric have had their day; they now look quite vulgar. Mantles reaching to the feet are still quite popular, though; the handsomest ones are made in two materials—as, for instance, the back and front of one stuff, and the sides, including the sleeves, of the second; or perhaps the plastron and full pleats at the back of one material, and the remainder of the contrasting fabric. The most usual combination is of fancy striped, spotted, or watered yelvets, mixed with plain ones; but fur sleeves and sides to a velvet mantle are very effective. Fur trimmings appear on nearly all coats and cloaks, and on a good many dresses. There is a all coats and cloaks, and on a good many dresses. There is a handsome new mantle material, a smooth-faced cloth watered handsome new mantle material, a smooth-faced cloth watered with a meandering line, or distinct pattern, of silk; in fact, watered and shot materials are quite leading fashions. For young girls there is nothing to equal a very simply made, tight-fitting short jacket in black, grey, or fawn cloth; a fur revers on one or both sides of the breast of the coat, and fur collar and cuffs, or, alternatively, a little trimming of braid, just relieving the simplicity. Elaborate gimps in black silk braid are used on mantles of all materials.

The presence of the Maharajah Gaikwar of Baroda is

The presence of the Maharajah Gaikwar of Baroda is the principal excitement of Brighton residents at the moment. His Highness declined to come to London during the Jubilee festivities of last season because he was not sufficiently assured of receiving the precedence which he held to be his due amongst the potentates there assembled; and, indeed, the powerful and wealthy ruling Princes of India might well object to being placed (as they were in the Abbey) amongst the Royal children and attendants, while the Queen of Hawaii and German Grand Dukes passed above them to more honourable seats. Having missed the London season, the Gaikwar has been taking advantage of the Brighton one; holding receptions, patronising charity balls and bazaars, and creating a sensation by driving in a procession of carriages, with native attendants, along the King's-road. The Maharanee's carriage is known by the lace curtains which shield her Highness from the gaze of man; for she is not being allowed to follow the example of the The presence of the Maharajah Gaikwar of Baroda is the lace curtains which shield her Highness from the gaze of man; for she is not being allowed to follow the example of the more emancipated European woman, in going abroad with uncovered visage, as the Maharanee of Kuch Behar did during her stay in this country. A private subscription ball was held on Thursday, Dec. 8, which was described as "given by the inhabitants of Brighton to the Gaikwar of Baroda." It was a droll with the country of thick peak. notion, for the last thing a Mohammedan gentleman of high rank would think of doing is dancing to amuse himself. His plan is to pay people to dance to amuse him. The Maharanee enjoyed the ball in this true orthodox manner; for a room was curtained off with lace and muslin, and shielded with palmtrees and satin hangings, behind which the Indian Princess sat concealed, but through which she could herself espy the festive scene, and was, it is to be hoped, entertained by the dancing of the inhabitants of Brighton.

dancing of the inhabitants of Brighton.

Madame Boucicault, the famous proprietress of the Bon Marehé of Paris, deserves a word of notice in this column, as an admirable illustration of the real business capacity of a woman, and, at the same time, as being as benevolent, according to her means, as the Baroness Burdett-Coutts; worthy, too, of being named with that noble English lady for the wisdom as well as the munificence of her charities. Madame Boucicault sprang from the people; the daughter of a laundress, and herself only a humble shopwoman, who married a commis or draper's assistant; and the young couple, mainly by her business faculty and tact, built up, from one tiny shop, the enormous business of the Bon Marché. Her husband died a considerable time ago; but Madame, according to French custom, had always been a chief director of the business, and enlarged and improved her business director of the business, and enlarged and improved her business standing as a widow, instead of sinking under the loss of her partner. Her benefactions commenced at home, her arrangements for the comfort and well-being of her employes being wonderfully complete. A pension scheme, to the endowment of which she contributed £160,000, and a partnership share in the business given to nearly a hundred of her principal buyers and shop-assistants, were the crowning efforts of her life in this direction; but the tale of her benefactions outside her business is too long and extensive for recapitulation,-F. F.-M.

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HAPPY MOMENTS.—"Only look, mother!

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HAPPY MOMENTS,-Opening the unex-

HAPPY MOMENTS.—" Mother, it is Tea,

HAPPY MOMENTS. - "Mother, there is a book about Tea which tells how to make Tea, and all about the water boiling."

HAPPY MOMENTS. — "Child, put the

HAPPY MOMENTS.—Pouring the Tea out.

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CHRISTMAS DAY. EXTR. Past Trains (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Cass-) from Portsmouth Hap sour 7 a.m. and 8.25 a.m., to London. Boats in connection from Ryde 6.30 a.m., and 7.37 a.m., A special Train will leave Ventuor 6.35 a.m., calling at all Stations to Ryde P.cr in connection with the 7.30 a.m., Boat.

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Trains from Vectoria 10.45 a.m. and 12.15 p.m., calling at
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BRANCH BOOKING - OFFICES.—For the convenience of Passenters who may desire to take their test in advance, the following Branch Booking-Offices, in on to those at the Victoria and London Bridge Stations, ow open for the issue of Tickets to all Stations on the on, Brighton, and South Cost Railway to the 1sle of at, Paris, and the Continent, &c. —

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'Circ Auency, 4, Royal Exchange-buildings, Cornhill.

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street. Street, issued at these Offices will be dated to suit the venience of Passengers.

These two Offices will remain open until 10 p.m. on ursuay Friday, and Saturday, Dec. 22, 23, and 24.

To further particulars see Handbills, to be had at all tions, and at any of the above offices.

(By Order) A. Sarle, Secretary and General Manager.

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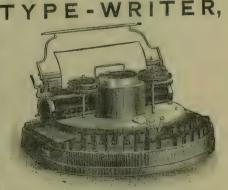
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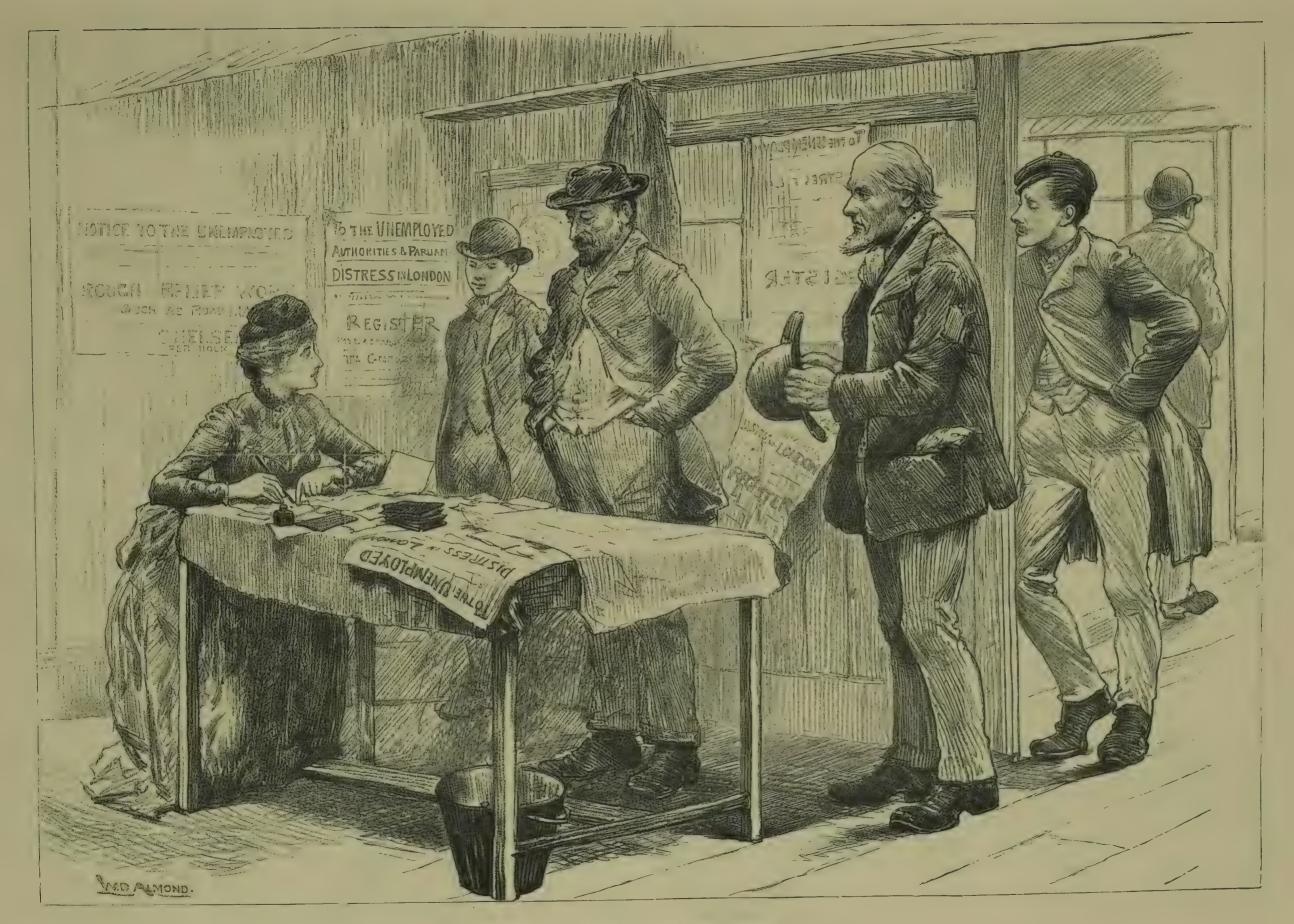


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THE TOY DOG SHOW, WESTMINSTER AQUARIUM.



THE TOY DOG-SHOW.

The third annual exhibition of toy dogs, held last week at the Royal Aquarium, Westminster, comprised pugs, King Charles, Blenheim, and Prince Charles spaniels. Japanese spaniels, Maltese, Yorkshire terriers, black-and-tan terriers, bull terriers, Italian greyhounds, Pomeranians, and variety, selling, and novice classes, in all nearly three hundred animals, making a novice classes, in all nearly three hundred animals, making a novice classes, in all nearly three hundred animals, making a most successful show. Our Artist's sketches are not confined to winners of first-prizes in the different classes. Among these were, pug dog, Mr. W. L. Sheffield's Stately; female pug, Mrs. F. M. Chatterton's Lady Clematis; red and white Blenheim spaniel, Mrs. L. E. Jenkins's Bowsie and female Flossie III.; King Charles, no prize dog; female, Mr. R. Spencer's Olivette; Prince Charles, Mrs. Jenkins's Prince of Teddington; toy spaniel, Mr. Bagnall's Marguerite; Yorkshire terrier, Mrs. M. A. Foster's Daisy II.; small black-and-tan terrier, Mrs. Hamp's Jubilce Wonder; toy bull terrier, Mr. A. George's Young King Dick; Italian greyhound, Mr. E. P. Davis's Len'a; Pomeranian, Mr. C. Petrzywalski's Black Pearl. Many other prizes were awarded to the best animals in special groups under the principal classes, and in the open competition among those not ranked as champions; also for litters of puppies. There were nine entries of Flemish Schipperkes, which have smooth coats, prick ears, and no tails, and the first prize was awarded to Mrs. G. Berrie's Flo. The six little dogs whose heads are portrayed in the corner drawing, on a larger scale than the others in our Illustration, may be identified by name. The one to the left hand, in front, is Muchall Prince, a "Prince Charles" spaniel, belonging to Mrs. L. H. Thompson, winner of a first prize in the "open" class; to the right, in the front line, is Flo, Mrs. G. Berrie's Flemish Schipperke. In the centre of the drawing is the female Blenheim spaniel Diva, owned by Mrs. Horne, which gained a prize. Above, to the left, is the toy beagle, Oakleigh Melody, belonging to Mrs. Lindsey Hogg. Mr. W. F. Bagnall's toy spaniel Marguerite, and, to the right hand, Ruby Prince, which is owned by Mrs. Jenkins, are represented on the upper line. is owned by Mrs. Jenkins, are represented on the upper line.

The Shrewsbury Town Council have decided to apply to the Local Government Board for power to borrow the sum of £25,000 upon the security of the water and other rates, for the purpose of carrying out a new scheme for improving the general water supply of the town.

A special general meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society was held on Dec. 13 at the Albert Hall—Sir Trevor Lawrence presiding. The council proposed that the resources of the society should be devoted to the maintenance of the They had been offered the Conservatory, which they had erected, and a part of the gardens at South Kensington for £1000 per annum, but this would involve too large an expenditure in maintenance. The leading suggestions of the council were approved, and a committee was appointed to assist in recoveraging the society. in reorganising the society.

REGISTERING THE UNEMPLOYED.

The opening of registration offices for the unemployed workmen of various trades, and for labourers willing to do any simple work, in different quarters of London, has obtained general approval. A resolution in its favour was passed by the Conference on the existing distress that was held on Monday, Dec. 5, at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street, under the presidency of Lord Herschell; among those present being Cardinal Manning, Earl Compton, the Bishop of Bedford, Canon Shuttleworth, and Mr. Arnold White. Several ladies have volunteered to act as clerks or registrars during certain hours of the day; and rooms have been assigned for ite purpose, in some instances, at the parish Vestry-Halls, or in other public buildings. Our Illustration shows the scene at the Chelsea registration office, where a lady is officiating; her duty being simply to take notes of the statements of those who apply for help in seeking employment. The opening of registration offices for the unemployed workmen

The president of the Society of Telegraph Engineers and Electricians, and Lady Bright, held a conversazione, on Dec. 15, the galleries of the Institute of Painters in Oil-Colours 191, Piccadilly.

The foundation of the Commercial Travellers' Schools at Pinner—one of our best benevolent institutions—was cheerily celebrated, on Dec. 15, at a banquet held at the Hôtel Métropole, under the presidency of Mr. Daniel R. Harvest, of Dowgate Dock.

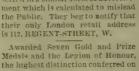
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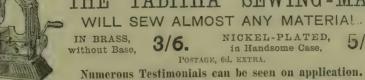
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DRAWN BY GORDON BROWNE.

"Ho is a scoundrel," said the woman, "and you are another!"

MISER FAREBROTHER.*

BY B. L. FARJEON,

Author of "In a Silver Sea," "Grif," "Great Porter-Square," &c.

CHAPTER L.

DICK GARDEN TO THE RESCUE.

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DICK GARDEN TO THE RESCUE.

Aunt and Uncle Leth and their children sat in their once happy home in Camden Town gazing at each other in mute despair. For them the tragedy of life was complete and overwhelming, and their condition was such that they could find no words to give expression to their horror and grief. They were waiting for Fred Cornwall, who had obtained permission to see Phoebe in prison. When he entered the room, his face was white and stern. He felt the terrible blow which had fallen upon them no less poignantly than they; but he had not lost the power to act, nor, as with them, had hope entirely deserted him.

"I have seen her," he said in a low tone. "She sends loving messages to you. I expected to find her heartbroken and prostrate, but she is imbued with a strange strength and resignation. The worst is over, she says; she must not think of the past, but of the future. She is sustained by a consciousness of innocence, and is inexpressibly comforted by the thought that we know she is innocent. She begs that you will not grieve too deeply for her." He paused a moment or two. "That is the sense of her message to you. She is an angel and a martyr. I can trust myself to say nothing more of my visit to the prison. I must not remain with you now, unless you have something to communicate which may help me in the task upon which I am engaged—of even yet clearing her from the wicked charge. Yes, Aunt Leth; I will move heaven and carth to establish her innocence. I will not rest; I will not sleep"— Again he was compelled to pause; and when he could control himself, he said, "I must see Tom Barley. Has he been here to-day?"

"Yes," replied Aunt Leth; "but I fear it will be long before he comes here again. There was a dreadful scene between him and 'Melia-Jane. The girl stormed at him for giving his evidence about seeing a woman in a blue dress at Parksides on that fatal night. She said if it had not been for him, our poor Phoebe would have been set free; and when he asked what clse he could do

to him, she answered that he ought to have cut his tengue out

first." "Melia-Jane was right," said Fanny. "'Melia-Jane was right," said Fanny.

"I don't see that he could have acted differently," said
Fred, thoughtfully. "Without his evidence the case against
my suffering angel would have been incomplete; but there can
be no question that he spoke the truth. He did see a woman
in a blue dress at Parksides; but it was not Phæbe. The
evidence relating to the dresses worn by Mrs. Pamilett is not to
be shaken, and it could not have been that she wore on that
night a blue dress in order to throw suspicion upon our
innocent darling."

"She could have worn such a dress," said Uncle Leth,
"and afterwards destroyed it."

"and afterwards destroyed it."
"That is possible enough; but she could have had no hope, supposing her to be the guilty wretch"—
"Or her-son," interposed Fanny.
"She could have had no hope of entangling our Phæbe by so doing. She knew that Phobe was living here, and the sudden * All Rights Reserved.

visit our poor girl paid to her father could not by any possibility have become known to her beforehand. If the woman Tom Barley saw was neither Phœbe nor Mrs. Pamilett, who bility have become known to her beforehand. If the woman Tom Barley saw was neither Phæbe nor Mrs. Pamilett, who is she? There are now two mysterious persons in this horrible affair—the man who was in the habit of visiting Miser Farebrother late at night and this woman whom Tom Barley saw, and who was conspicuously anxious that he should not see her face. These matters must be followed up; we can agitate, we can get time. I hear on all sides nothing but sympathy expressed for our dear Phæbe, and the case against her is so entirely circumstantial that I will not, I cannot, give up hope. A friend of mine who has chambers next to mine is so much interested in the case that he has offered to help me all he can. He is clearer-headed than I am just now, and cleverer, and higher up the ladder. He is cenvinced that Phæbe is innocent, and that there is a mystery in the affair which, unravelled, would set her free."

"God blees him!" sobbed Fanny. "What is the name of this good friend, that I may remember it in my prayers?"

"Dick Garden. We are going to work together. He is waiting for me now in my rooms. He is a good fellow—the best of friends; I rely greatly upon him. Calm as I appear, I am burning with wrath and indignation, and I am scarcely to be depended upon for a clear judicial reasoning upon anything we may happily discover. I must go at once. Then you cannot tell me where I can find Tom Barley?"

"I will find him for you," said Robert, starting up.

"Do; and send him on to my place immediately. Goodbye—good-bye. If you hear anything, don't fail to let me know."

He drove rapidly to his rooms, where he found his friend,

He drove rapidly to his rooms, where he found his friend, Richard Garden, awaiting him. This friend was of about the same age as himself; an ambitious, astute young fellow, determined to get along in the world, and almost certain to succeed, for the reason that he had brains and indomitable courage and industry.

He leoked up from the paper upon which he was writing when Fred entered. Upon a smaller table in the room some food was spread: a plate of ham and beef, a cold pie, and bread; also a jug of ale.

You have had nothing to eat?" said Garden. Fred shook "You have had nothing to eat?" said Garden. Fred shook his head impatiently. "Of course you haven't; and you think that we can go into an affairlike this with empty stomachs. No, old fellow; we must assist ourselves like sensible men. A craving stomach is a bad mental foundation. Come, tuck away; force semething down; that's right. Just taste this cold pie—good, isn't it? A pint of ale between us—here's your half, no more and no less. You feel better, don't you? Now we are fit to set to work. You saw her?"

"Did you get her to talk calmly?"
"She was calmer than you are, Dick. She has made up her mind to die." "Not for many a long year yet. Here's a letter I've written to the papers, signed 'A Lawyer,' showing up the weak points in the case, and appealing for sympathy and a surer kind of justice. Just finished the fourth copy as you came in. My lad is down-stairs; he will take the letters to the newspaper offices, and to-morrow they will be all over the country. Don't lose heart, Fred; there is some infernal mystery at the bottom of this affair, and I mean to get at it. You asked the poor girl about the dresses Mrs. Pamilett was in the habit of wearing?" 'Not for many a long year yet. Here's a letter I've

"Yes; and she said she never saw the woman in a blue

"Yes; and the said she never saw the woman in a blue dress."

"Is she still positive about the brooch?"

"She has not the slightest doubt. When her father turned her from his house she left the brooch behind her."

"Then it must have been placed in the grounds by some person—deliberately placed there."

"Unless it was dropped by accident."

"If so, it must have been a female who dropped it. Either way, the person who dropped or placed it where it was found can be no other than Mrs. Pamflett. Let us suppose that. If dropped by accident, it proves that she must have been near the spot where the miser was murdered; if placed there by her, it must have been placed for a motive. Miss Farebrother adheres to the truth of her story as to what occurred on the night of her visit to Parksides?"

"Yes."

"She did not see Mrs. Pamflett?"

"She did not see Mrs. Pamflett?"

"She did not see Mrs. Pamilett?"

"But Mrs. Pamilett may have seen her. Let us assume that she or her son committed the deed. She sees Miss Farebrother in the grounds, and overhears, perhaps, what passes between the poor young lady and her father. She witnesses Miss Farebrother's departure from Parksides. After that the murder is committed. Then, seeing Miss Farebrother's veil on the ground—in Miss Farebrother's condition there are a thousand reasonable hypotheses to account for its having become detached from her hat—the idea presents itself to Mrs. Pamilett to strengthen the case against Miss Farebrother by placing the brooch also near the dead body."

"You do not forget the female in a blue dress that Tom Barley saw in the grounds?"

"I do not; and I cannot account for it. Did you ask Miss Farebrother anything about the man who, according to Mrs. Pamilett, had been in the habit for years of visiting Miser Farebrother secretly at night?"

"To her knowledge, no such man ever presented himself and no such visits ever took place."

"She has no remembrance of anything of the kind occurring?"

"Not the slightest."

occurring?

"It is inexplicable. There's someone at the door. Come in !" It was Robert Lethbridge, who came to say that Tom Barley was on duty and would not be able to visit Fred Cornwall before the morning; but if they wished to speak to

him at once they would find him on his beat.

"No," said Garden; "we will not go to him. I want him when his time is his own, so that we can talk quietly and uninterruptedly. Go and tell him to come and see us at nine o'clock in the marning."

o'clock in the morning."

"He can be here earlier, Dick," said Fred Cornwall.

"Nine o'clock is early enough. It will give us time to sleep and rest. I amphysician as well as lawyer in this case

it seems."
Robert Lethbridge departed with the message, and he was barely gone before two other visitors presented themselves. These were Kiss, the comedian, and Mr. Linton, the dramatic author. They looked very grave as they entered. Fred Cornwall introduced them to Richard Garden, who cast a shrewd glance at them, and said quietly—
"You have something to tell us?"
"You can speak freely," said Fred. "Mr. Garden and I are working together in this terrible matter."

are working together in this terrible matter,"

"A terrible matter indeed, Mr. Cornwall," said Kiss, with deep feeling in his voice, "and Mr. Linton and I are responsible for it." The young lawyers looked at their visitors in surprise at this statement. Kiss continued: "It is the melancholy truth that if it had not been for us an innocent young girl, an angel of sweetness and purity, would not be lying at death's door as we stand here. Unless we can prove her innocence it will haunt us to our dying day."

"Why do you accuse yourselves?" asked Garden.
"Was it not through our folly that Mr. Lethbridge was plunged into difficulties? Believing that my friend Linton had written a play which would make all our fortunes, did we

had written a play which would make all our fortunes, did we not go to Mr. Lethbridge and by our plausible statements induce him to sign a bill for three hundred pounds which that infamous scoundrel, Jeremiah Pamflett, discounted? You will remember the play I refer to, Mr. Garden; it was 'A Heart of Gold,' which, because of an extraordinary first-night speech made by Mr. Linton, blazed up for a fortnight or so, and then spluttered out like a tallow cardle with a damp wick. It was in the hope of helping her uncle out of his difficulties— It was in the hope of helping her uncle out of his difficulties—for which we, and we alone, were responsible—that Miss Farebrother paid a visit to her father on the night he was murdered. Had she not gone he would have been murdered all the same—there is no doubt in our minds as to that—and, safe and happy at home with her aunt and uncle, by no possibility could suspicion have been cast upon her. But she did go because none of us were able to pay the money which Mr. Lethbridge borrowed for us. Do you see now how it is that we are responsible for what has occurred? It is Linton and I who ought to have been placed in the dock instead and I who ought to have been placed in the dock instead of that sweet, unfortunate young lady. Since the lying accusation was brought against her, we have not been able to sleep. If exhausted nature compels us to go off in a doze we start up in affright and horror. There will never again be rest for either of us until Miss Farebrother is set at

liberty and her honourable name restored to her."
"Your feelings do you credit," said Garden; "but it is not alone to say what you have said that you have come here

to-night?"
"No, but it leads up to what may be of importance. God "No, but it leads up to what may be of importance. God knows whether it will er not, but drowning men catch at a straw. I am glad you are working with Mr. Cornwall, Sir; it is easy to see how he is suffering, and you must be a comfort to him—if," he added feelingly, "anybody can comfort him at such a time as this. Well, Sir, Linton and I have also been putting our heads together, and we decided to set a watch."

"Upon whom?"

"Upon that image of wickedness, Jeremiah Pamflett, and his equally wicked mother. Sir, that tale of hers as to what took place between her and Miss Farebrother on the night of the murder is false as- Never mind; it will not do to be

"That is to say, you believe it to be false? You have no direct evidence to the contrary?"

"No, Sir; unfortunately we have not. It is our belief, as

you say; but none the less incontrovertible. It is not because we have dramatic ideas that we determined to watch this precious pair—it seemed to us to offer a chance of discovering something; therefore we set practically to work, Linton watching the son, I watching the mother. Until this evening we saw nothing that could be turned against them. You are probably aware that Mrs. Pamflett left Parksides shortly after the murder?"
"She had to leave," remarked Fred; "as Miss Fare-

brother's legal representative I saw to that before the trial

took place."
"Quite proper. And her son had to leave the London office and seek lodgings elsewhere?"

"Yes, that was also effected through me."

"Being thrown upon their own resources, they took two rooms in Knightsbridge. We tracked them there. Sometimes they went out together, sometimes alone. When they were together they scarvely spoke to each other; and it seemed to us as if this silence had been determined upon between them: what they said might have been overheard, and they might have said something injudicious. It almost appeared as if nothing was to come of our watch. There was a monotony in it which weighed upon us, and we were almost in despair. We tried to get a room in the house they lodged in, but there was none to let. The day before yesterday, however, something occurred to rouse us. We saw a woman watching the house they lived in. She knocked at the street door, and received an answer to her questions from the landlady. Then she retired, and from a short distance kept watch upon the house—you may imagine how excited 'Yes, that was also effected through me." from the landlady. Then she retired, and from a short distance kept watch upon the house—you may imagine how excited this made us—until Jereniah Pamflett came out alone. He walked along apparently with no suspicion in his mind that he was being followed by the woman, and certainly with no suspicion that Linton and I were walking behind them both. You may be certain that we were very careful. It is excusable in me as an actor, and in Linton as a dramatic author, that we should adopt some slight disguise, altered from day to day under my direction, to lessen the chances of our being detected in case Jeremiah Pamflett should happen to see us. Well, Sir, as the four of us were walking along in Indian file, what did the woman suddenly do but go up to Jeremiah and accost him. And what did he do but start Jeremiah and accost him. And what did he do but start violently, turn round to look at the woman, and then, without saying one word to her, walk rapidly away with the conspicuous intention of getting rid of her. From a rapid walk he got into a run, and the woman and we lost sight of him. So far as that incident was concerned, there was an end of it. We lost sight too, of the woman, but not before we can cut fit. We lost sight, too, of the woman; but not before we saw sufficient of her to be able to recognise her if we should see her again. Yesterday we were again in view of the house in which these Pamiletts lodged, and there again was the same woman watching, as we judged, for her friend Jeremiah. But he did not make his appearance, and, after remaining in the neighbourhood for nearly an hour, we saw the landlady put a card in bourhood for nearly an hour, we saw the landlady put a card in her front window, 'Rooms to let.' Across the road went the woman; she knocked at the door, made some inquiries of the landlady, and came away with a spiteful, disappointed expression on her face. I told Linton to follow her and find out where she lived. Meanwhile I myself went across to the house and inquired about the rooms to let. It was as I suspected: the Pamfletts had left—'quite sudden,' the landlady said. Putting this and that together, I came to the conclusion that they had left their lodgings, and most probably the neighbourhood, because of the discovery by the woman of their whereabouts. This looked so much like fright on the part of Jerenniah Pamflett that it stirred me up and made me hopeful. But where had he and his mother flown to? Sir, this very evening chance has befriended us, and we are again on the

But where had he and his mother flown to? Sir, this very evening chance has befriended us, and we are again on the track. Give me, if you please, your closest attention: I am approaching something rather startling."

"Stop a moment," said Garden, rising and going to the sideboard, from which he took a bottle of apollinaris and a bottle of brandy, "you seem rather faint."

"To tell you the truth," said Kiss, "I have scarcely tasted food to-day, I have been that anxious and distressed."

"We are all engaged in the same good cause," said Garden,

smiling, "and everyone, with the exception of myself, seems bent upon starving himself. Take a slice of this pie; Mr. Linton will join you. You don't object to brandy and applling is ?"

apollinaris?"

"Not at all," said Kiss, speaking with his mouth full;

"split it between Linton and me. Mr. Garden, you are a
wise gentleman and a capable chief. If we are happily
successful in the end we have in view—and I pray God we

successful in the end we have in view—and I pray God we shall be!—we shall have you to thank for it. Do you not think with me, Mr. Cornwall?"

Fred pressed Garden's hand with emotion, and Garden, shrewd, cool, self-possessed, and with all his wits about him, returned the pressure, and gave Fred a look of encouragement. It was like wine to Fred. His hopes grew stronger. Perhaps, after all, his dear, suffering girl would, by the mercy of God, be rescued from her dread peril, and be spared to brighten his life and the lives of those who held her dear. His eyes grew dim, and he pressed his hand across them.

dim, and he pressed his hand across them.
"Do not overrate my services," said Garden, in his clear strong voice. "I am only a moderately skilful engineer, and my hardest task, it appears to me, is to keep the machinery of which I have direction in fair workable order. Now, then, Mr. Kiss, you look double the man you were. We are all attention."

CHAPTER LI.

THE DIAMOND BRACELET AGAIN.

"Mr. Linton," continued Kiss, "followed the woman who was so anxious to enter into relations—evidently not new ones—with that abominable scoundrel Jeremiah Pamflett, and who had exhibited such vexation at his sudden disappearance; he who had exhibited such vexation at his sudden disappearance; he learnt her address, but could not discover her name. Inquiring of people who lived in the same house, he was informed by some that they knew nothing whatever of her, and was told by others to mind his own business. But, as I said, chance befriended us: not two hours ago we saw the woman and Jeremiah together. We had failed in tracking him down; she had succeeded. And of all the corners in this Babylon where should Jeremiah have taken up his new lodgings but in South Lambeth, three doors from the house in which Linton lives! That is not the only piece of luck which chance has lives! That is not the only piece of luck which chance has thrown in our way. The landlady of the house in which he rents rooms is a friend of Mrs. Linton. This good lady, who is as deeply concerned in the terrible course of events as we are, is now in that house—on the watch. Jeremiah Pamflett and his mother will not escape us again so easily. So much for the side-issue—what I may call the underplot. Now for the important discovery. When we saw Jeremiah and the woman together, he looking very much disturbed, and she very determined and victors. I desired Linton to keep in the background. Without he looking very much disturbed, and she very determined and vicious, I desired Linton to keep in the background. Without flattery, I may say I am a better actor than he is, and, besides, I was more completely disguised. My object was to discover what these two were talking about. So I followed them close enough to hear scraps of their conversation; but not close enough to draw suspicious observation upon myself. The first thing I heard that caused me surprise was a name—Captain Ablewhite. It was the woman who gave utterance to it, and accompanying her mention of the name were some words by no means complimentary to its owner. 'He's a it, and accompanying her mention of the name were some words by no means complimentary to its owner. 'He's a scoundrel,' said the woman to Jeremiah as I casually passed them, 'and you're another!' Now, a high-minded, honest man would have fired up at this. Jeremiah Pamflett did not; he was as meek as a turnip. They passed on out of hearing; but I did not lose sight of them. 'Captain Ablewhite!' thought I, 'Captain Ablewhite! How is it that the name seems so familiar to me?' Does it sound familiar to you, Sir?''

"In a vague way, yes," replied Garden; "but I cannot immediately place it. I am not personally acquainted with anyone of that name."
""Nor I Six but that did not prevent it bethering me

immediately place it. I am not personally acquainted with anyone of that name."

"Nor I, Sir; but that did not prevent it bothering me. I took another favourable opportunity of getting close to the woman and Jeremiah. She was talking away at a rapid rate, he saying hardly a word; but I happened to catch a wicked look in his eyes once as he looked down on her. It was more than wicked, it was devilish; and I could not help thinking that it was a good job they were not walking in a dark place with no people about. If ever murder was expressed in a man's face it was expressed in the face of Jeremiah Pamflett as he cast that look at his companion. 'Half the money you and Ablewhite got for the diamond bracelet'—don't miss a word of this, Sir; I am repeating what the woman said to Jeremiah—'was to come to my share, and a few sovereigns is all I have managed to serew out of him. The false villain has thrown me over for another woman, and has given me the slip; but I'll take care that you don't serve me the same. I have found out your new quarters—you live at No. 12, Surrey-street.' That, Sir, is three doors from Linton's lodgings—he lives at No. 15. You will understand that it would have been the height of imprudence for me to have remained near this precious pair for more than a few moments at a time, but what the height of imprudence for me to have remained near this precious pair for more than a few moments at a time, but what I had already heard opened my eyes. It came upon me like a flash of lightning. Captain Ablewhite and a diamond bracelet! Why, that story was in all the papers a little while ago, and created a regular stir. Linton is making use of it now in a new drama he is writing. Real life, Sir; facts with which the public are familiar—that's the sort of thing for the stage. You remember the story, of course?"

"I remember it well," said Garden, cool and collected as ever. "Go on, Mr. Kiss; something may come of this."

"Something will come of it, Sir," said Kiss, his voice growing more excited. "You haven't got the essence of what I heard; I shall astonish you presently. You remember what a laugh there was when Mr. Quinlan's statement was published in the papers. Mr. Quinlan was the husband of the lady from whom the diamond bracelet had been stolen, and the information he gave to the police and the reporters was that the

whom the diamond bracelet had been stolen, and the information he gave to the police and the reporters was that the bracelet that had been stolen was one he had had made in imitation of the genuine article, and that the stones the thieves had got hold of were false. 'The Biters Bit'—that was the heading in the newspapers."

"I remember it all perfectly."

"Listen now to what I learnt from the stray bits of conversation I picked up as I followed Jeremiah and the woman. She was Mrs. Quinlan's maid; the man waiting outside the Langham Hotel was Jeremiah Pamilett; she gave him the bracelet; afterwards he met Captain Ablewhite, but what passed between them, of course, cannot be known. The woman knows, however, that the bracelet was taken to Miser Farebrother, and that it was he who advanced money on it, woman knows, however, that the bracelet was taken to Miser Farebrother, and that it was he who advanced money on it, Jeremiah being the go-between. I did not hear all this as I am relating it, but I put it together out of what I managed to pick up, and I will stake my life that it is near enough to the truth for us or anyone to work upon. That, however, does not bring down the curtain; you have yet to hear the climax; Linton could not have worked it up more dramatically. The last words that reached my ears were these: 'You fool!' said the woman to Jeremiah. 'The bracelet you received from me was the genuine one. The stones were real, and are worth the woman to Jeremiah. 'The bracelet yeu received from me was the genuine one. The stones were real, and are worth forty thousand pounds, and I mean to have my share of the plunder!' The moment she said this, Jeremiah, in a kind of

from y, clapped his hand on her mouth, and dragged her away. A cab was passing, and he haded it, and hustled the woman in, giving some directions to the driver. The next moment they were gone. If there had been another eab in view I would have followed them; but, unfortunately, there wasn't one in the street. The first thing I did after that was to run with Linton to his lodgings, and the first thing Mrs. Linton said to us was that Mrs. Pamflett and her son had taken the two rooms that had been to let at No. 12. 'Are you acquainted with the landlady?' I asked; and Mrs. Linton answered that she and the landlady of No. 12 were friends. 'Go and bring her here at once,' I said; and no sooner said than done. It took but a few minutes to get the landlady on our side—it was Mrs. Linton who did that. It would not have been safe for me or Linton to go to No. 12 to watch; Jeremiah Pamflett knows us, and at close quarters might see through any disguise we might assume; but neither he nor Mrs. Pamflett has ever seen Mrs. Linton, so we appointed her sentinel. The next best thing we

Garden held up his hand, and Kies did not finish the

Garden held up his hand, and Kiss did not finish the sentence.

"That would be the worst thing we could do," he said.

"What you have discovered must at present be mentioned to no other person but ourselves. The task upon which we are engaged is that of saving an innocent young lady's life—all else is of small importance. How was the woman dressed?"

"Very quietly, in black."

"Does she resemble Miss Farebrother in build?"

"Not at all. She is shorter and stouter."

"Did you hear anything definite as to the length of time she has been in London?"

"Nothing; but judging in a general way I should say she has only recently returned from foreign parts with the idea of obtaining from Jeremiah Pamflett a share of the proceeds of

obtaining from Jeremiah Pamflett a share of the proceeds of

"A share of the money he received from Miser Farebrother "A share of the money he received from Miser Farebrother for the bracelet that was stolen? Yes, that is a natural conclusion." The young lawyer rose from his seat, and went to a corner of the room where a great pile of newspapers lay. "Mr. Cornwall keeps a file of the Times for reference; it will help us." He searched through the papers, and soon found the one he wanted. He smiled quietly as he looked down the columns. "It is as I suspected. The account of the robbery of the diamond bracelet was first published on the day preceding that upon which Miser Farebrother was murdered." They all started at this, and the young lawyer proceeded. preceding that upon which Miser Farebrother was murdered." They all started at this, and the young lawyer proceeded. "Let us build up a theory. Jeremiah Pamflett takes a diamond bracelet of great value to his master, and upon the strength of his representations Miser Farebrother advances a sum of money upon it—believing the stones to be genuine. On the day before his death a newspaper falls into his hands, and he learns from it that he has been tricked—that the bracelet has been stolen and that the diamonds are false. We know that the one passion of his life is money—it is his idol, his god. We have it in evidence that on that day, in the afternoon, doubtless after he made this discovery, he sent a telegram to Jeremiah Pamflett in London requesting his manager's attendance at Parksides. Miser Farebrother was not in the habit of wasting money upon telegrams; hence, his sending of this message was prompted by some particular motive—say, the demand from Jeremiah Pamflett for the restitution of the money of which he has been defrauded. Before this scoundrel leaves London for Parksides he also has learnt that a trick has been played upon him by Captain Ablewhite and the woman who has tracked him down. At Parksides a stormy scene takes place between the miser and his secondrel manager. The miser threatens criminal proceedings but replans gives the secondrel time to refund the Captain Ablewhite and the woman who has tracked him down. At Parksides a stormy scene takes place between the miser and his scoundrel manager. The miser threatens criminal proceedings, but perhaps gives the scoundrel time to refund the money, he has advanced. They part with feelings of bitter rage towards each other. What course is now open to Jeremiah Pamflett? Has he the money to refund? Unlikely. Can he borrow it? Quite as unlikely. I bear in mind what I gathered from you, Fred, respecting the bill for three hundred pounds which Mr. Lethbridge accepted. You arranged for the payment of that bill with a betting-man, who had received it from Jeremiah Pamflett. Natural inference: that the scoundrel Jeremiah had been backing horses and losing. If necessary, we will look that betting-man up. Not seeing his way to refund the money which has been advanced on the bracelet, nothing but exposure and disgrace lie before Jeremiah Pamflett. How to avoid impending ruin? How to avoid a felon's fate? Miser Farebrother lives practically alone in the house at Parksides, waited upon by the housekeeper, Jeremiah's mother. These two are bound to each other by mutual interests. Who so likely to profit by Miser Farebrother's death as Jeremiah Pamflett? Unhappily, on that night Mise Farebrother goes down to Parksides on her heavenly mission of love. But before she makes her appearance there, the murder of her father is resolved upon. There is no independent evidence that Jeremiah returned to London and reached his office by eleven o'clock. We have only his word for it. Had Miss Farebrother not visited Parksides on that night, suspicion would have fallen upon the Pamfletts, and the hour of the scoundrel's return to London would have been a vital suspicion would have fallen upon the Pamfletts, and the hour of the scoundrel's return to London would have been a vital of the scoundrel's return to London would have been a vital point. I put aside the account given by Mrs. Pamflett of the visit of a strange man to Miser Farebrother. It may or may not be true. Equally, it may or may not be a concocted story, invented beforehand for safety. Here comes in Tom Barley's evidence as to his seeing in the grounds a female in a blue dress. The honest fellow spoke the truth; he saw what he was compelled to swear to. Miss Farebrother wore such a dress. But why should she avoid him? He was her tried and faithful friend. Convinced as we are of her innocence, there is no reason for her avoidance. Here lies the mystery; if we can solve it Miss Farebrother is safe. And solve it we if we can solve it Miss Farebrother is safe. And solve it we will—My God

They had listened to him in profound admiration. Entranced by his masterly analysis, it seemed to Fred'as if they had only to go to the prison in which Phœbe was immured and demand her release. But when he uttered the words "My God!" and started to his feet and paced the room in a state of excitement which, for a few moments, was uncontrollable, their feelings of admiration changed to astonishment, and they

gazed at him in amazement.
"What is it, Dick?" cried Fred. "What is it?"
He seized Garden's hands and would have held him still;

but Garden threw him off, and continued to pace the room.
"Don't speak to me for a moment!" he cried. "What I have suddenly thought of is so wild that I cannot reveal it. But, if it is a true inspiration, it means salvation! Ask me nothing, for I shall not answer you. It is for you to answer me. It has occurred to me that Mrs. Pamiliet and Mrs.

Lethbridge are about the same height and figure."

"Good God!" cried Fred; "what do you mean?"

"Answer my question, Fred," said Garden, "as you value
Miss Farebrother's life! The women—one a devil the other

an angel—are about the same height and figure?"
"Yes; they are."
"And from a short distance, say of thirty or forty yards,

might possibly be mistaken for each other?

"Yes, it is possible."

"Thank you." He had succeeded in mastering his agitation, and now to all appearance was calm. "Meanwhile," he said, sitting at the table and beginning to write, "what has become of the diamond bracelet?"

The question was uttered in a musing tone, as though he were asking it of himself. He continued to write for four or five minutes, and having completed his task he read what he had written, folded the paper, and put it in his pocket. Then he turned to Kiss and Mr. Linton.

"You have nothing more to say?"

You have nothing more to say?"

" Nothing.

"You delight in dramatic surprises," he said, addressing

"You delight in dramatic surprises," he said, addressing Linton, with a radiant look.

"If they are new to the stage," replied the bewildered dramatic author, "they are invaluable."

"I may supply you with one. It is just on the cards."

He now addressed Kiss as well as Mr. Linton. "Our interview is at an end. What I wish you to do is to so arrange matters that we can at any moment lay hands upon Mrs. Punflett, her son, and the woman who is implicated in the theft of the diamond bracelet. Do you think you can manage it?"

"I will answer for that."

manage it!?"

"I will answer for that."

"When you came here to-night," he said earnestly, "you reproached yourself for being the cause of an innocent girl being sentenced to death for a murder she did not commit. You went back, as it were, to first causes. It is likely—almost certain indeed, so much depends upon chance—that if you had not come, the inspiration which may mean salvation would not have descended upon me. To you, therefore, if all ends as I fervently pray it may, will belong the credit of directing justice aright. Humanly administered it is sometimes fallible."

"Mr. Garden," said Kiss, in a voice no less earnest than that of the young lawyer, "I have not the slightest idea of your meaning, but you have won my esteem, and I honour you with all my heart and soul."

"I thank you," said the young lawyer, with dignity and courtesy; "what you kindly accord to me is worth the winning. Good-night."

When Kiss and Mr. Linton were gone, Garden said to Fred—

"I am deeply, truly in earnest. For a little while leave the direction of this affair entirely in my hands. Give me your

"I give it, Dick, old fellow, cheerfully."

"I am going now to the office of a newspaper, the editor of which I am acquainted with. I shall take a cab there and back. Unless some urgent necessity arises, do not leave the room; till I return."

The following morning, in the columns of one daily London newspaper, the following interesting item found a place:—
"Our readers will remember the incident of the abstraction of a wonderful diamond bracelet from the jewel case of a lady of fabulous wealth. This bracelet was valued at sixty thousand pounds. A singular and somewhat humorous turn was given to this robbery by the wealthy husband of the owner, who, when public attention was directed to the matter, stated that the ornament stolen was one he had had made in exact imitation of the original, and that the stones of which the thieves had obtained possession were false. Information has reached us that this was not the case, and that the missing bracelet is the genuine one. If this be true the daring robbers made a rare haul, of which, as nothing whatever has been heard of them, they have by this time reaped the advantage. The task of disposing of these diamonds singly in the markets of the world could not have been very difficult, their identification being almost impossible. In the interests of justice it is to be regretted that the truth was not made public in the first instance; it is now, supposing the thieves to have been moderately prudent, too late to repair the error."

This paragraph was copied in subsequent editions of hundreds of London and provincial newspapers.

(To be continued.)

(To be continued.)

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A CENTURY AGO. DECEMBER, 1787.

DECEMBER, 1787.

We have read how, in the course of the year, men were impressed for the Naval service; and how, in consequence, it was unpopular until the system of bounties was introduced. The fear of war being over, the pressed men were released, and the London Unronicle of Dec. 1 says:—"His Majesty has been graciously pleased to give directions to the Admiralty Board that every commissioned officer who has been on duty, viz., captains and lieutenants, shall receive three months' pay, that warrant officers shall receive two months' pay, and common seamen one month's pay extraordinary, as a gratuity for the expenses they may have been at in preparing for actual service. By such acts of Royal munificence his Majesty may reasonably expect a readiness and zeal in the Navy whenever their future expect a readiness and zeal in the Navy whenever their future services may be required."

By such acts of Royal munificence his Majesty may reasonably expect a readiness and zeal in the Navy whenever their future services may be required."

The same newspaper contains the following:—"On Monday last a person named Goward led his wife to the market-place at Nuneaton, and there sold and delivered her up, with a halter about her, to one White for the sum of three guineas. On their way, Goward asked his wife if she was not ashamed of being brought to open market to be sold; she said she was not, and was happy to think that she was going to have another husband, for she well knew who was going to be her purchaser. When he came to the place, Goward embraced his wife and wished her well, upon which she returned the compliment. White declared himself extremely well satisfied, and paid down the money, assuring the quondam husband it was good and full weight. The purchase being completed, White gave the remainder of the day with the greatest joy imaginable." Of course this was very wrong, and we ought to be properly horrified to think that such deprovity could exist even a hundred years ago; but history repeats itself, and we are no better in this generation, for in the Globe of May 6, this present year of grace 1887, there is an account of a well-to-do weaver at Burnley who was charged with deserting his wife and three children. "He admitted the soft impeachment at once, but urged that, inasmuch as he had sold the whole family to another man before the alleged desertion, he was acquitted of all responsibility for their maintenance. It was nothing to him whether the purchaser provided for their wants; the law had better see to that. For himself, he had duly received three halfpence, the amount of the purchase money, and there his interest in the affair began and ended."

Here is another fish story:—On Dec.1 some fishermen caught a shark 9 ft. 3 in. long near Poplar. On opening it, inside it were found a silver watch, a metal chain, and several small pieces of gold lace. The watch had a maker's name and a numbe

the rumour that these manufacturers were about to introduce Arkwright's machinery for spinning, by which the workmen imagined that their living by weaving at their primitive looms at home would be at an end. What machinery has done, the experience of the last century has shown. The riot was put down, thanks to the prompt and courageous action of the Mayor, who, however, was wounded by a stone. Riots also took place at Northampton, Harborough, and Melton.

Everyone who knows the social history of the last century must be familiar with the name of Mdlle. Mara, the sweet Everyone who knows the social history of the last century must be familiar with the name of Mdlle. Mara, the sweet prima donna, but may not have heard of a hunting adventure of her husband's. He was staying with the Earl of Exeter, and one hunting morn the Earl mounted him on his horse Black Sloven. The run is thus described: "The hounds, in full cry, gave speedy chase, like an host of winged horses all cleared the hedges and o'ertopped the mountains; Mara was not last. Black Sloven loved the sport, and, through necessity, Mara gave him his reins. Mara, too, had lost the use of his stirrup, and seized the mane. O'er hedge, ditch, river, gate, and wall went Sloven straight forward; he was equal to any task, and refused nothing. The dogs, Mara, and the groom were the only living mortals in at the death. Such a hunt was never known; after a time the rest of the sportsmen came up; Sloven was neighing to the echo of the neighbouring hills, and prancing with delight, while poor Mara, with life nearly extinct, motionless, was taken from his horse and put to bed. The situation of clearing a five-barred gate without the relief of stirrups was pitiable; every relief was administered, yet Mara was near giving up the ghost."

In this month was published in some of the newspapers a letter from Robert Raikes, the printer at Gloucester (ancestor of the present Postmaster-General), whose philanthropy so forwarded the cause of Sunday schools, showing the progress of his work. "It is incredible with what rapidity this grain of mustard seed is extending its branches over the nation. The

of mustard seed is extending its branches over the nation. The third of this month (November) compleat four years since I first mentioned the expediency of Sunday schools in the Gloucester Journal; and by the best information I am assured that the number of poor children, who were heretofore as neglected as the wild ass's colt, but who are now taken into these little seminaries of instruction amount to 250 000."

neglected as the wild ass's colt, but who are now taken into these little seminaries of instruction, amount to 250,000."

All have heard of Lord George Gordon and the "No Popery" riots of 1780, made familiar to us by Charles Dickens in his "Barnaby Rudge." At this time he was in very evil case. His love of notoriety kept him continually in hot water. Not content with his lucky escape by being acquitted from blaze in connection with the riots. blame in connection with the riots, on the grounds that his intentions in assembling the people were not malicious and traitorous, he was excommunicated, on May 4, 1786, by the Archbishop of Canterbury for contempt of court in not appearing as a witness when summoned; and, on June 6, 1787, he was found guilty of libel against the Queen of France and the French Ambassador, and for writing a scandalous paper called "The Prisoner's Petition." For this latter he was committed to Newgate latter he was committed to Newgate for three years, and for the former he was sentenced to imprisonment for two years and a fine of £500, and to find security for good behaviour for fourteen years, himself in £10,000 and two others £2500 each. He fied to Holland, but was politely told he was not wanted there and that he was not wanted there, and that he

must quit Amsterdam within twenty-four hours. He yielded to force majeure, and left at once for

England. Here he lived in quietude until he was arrested on Dec. 7 at Birmingham, where he had resided since August, unknown to everyone except those of the Jewish faith, which he had accepted, having renounced the Christian religion. He even seems to have officiated in some capacity at the chief synagogue in Birmingham. He refused, being apprehended on Friday, to proceed to London, because he should have to travel on the Sabbath day; so, to accommedate him, his departure was postponed on his giving bail; but ultimately a post-chaise and four brought him to London, and, after an interview with Mr. Justice Buller, he was taken to the King's Bench prison, whence he was transferred to Newgate. Here he remained until his death, of jail fever, on Nov. 1, 1793, his last moments being embittered by the knowledge that he could not be buried among his co-religionists, the Jews. The portrait given is supposed to have been sketched in Newgate, as were others, in which he is depicted in social intercourse with the other prisoners—and occasionally represented as smoking a long clay pipe. England. Here he lived in quietude until he was arrested on

clay pipe.

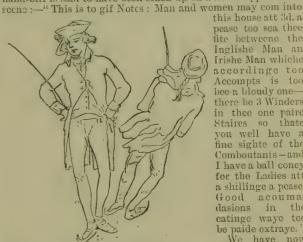
The King received a curious present from Lord Heathfield, of Gibraltar fame, in the shape of a watch made from the metal of one of the guns captured from the Spaniards during the siege. It was ornamented with several devices representing

the siege. It was ornamented with several devices representing the transactions of that memorable event.

A new copper coinage was sadly needed—that issued by Government was insufficient in quantity and much worn—so that traders took the matter in their own hands, and Boulton and Watts, from their works at Soho, Birmingham, turned out tons of "tokens," or promises to pay bearer a penny or halfpenny in exchange. These were, doubtless, illegal, but they were a great convenience to the public. A new copper coinage, however, was settled upon this month, and according to its scheme one pound of copper was to be coined into twenty-four halfpence, instead of forty-eight as hitherto—farthings to be coined in the same proportion as to size and weight. weight

Of the prosperity of the year 1787 we have some evidence in this extract from the World of Dec. 21:—"Of professional successes, these seem at present the instances most enviable. successes, these seem at present the instances most enviable. Mr. Scott, at the Chancery Ear, is getting as much as Sir Lloyd Kenyon ever gct—viz., £9000 a year. Erskine, in the King's Bench, last year fairly pleaded himself into £020 guineas—this year, his guineas are nearer seven than six thousand. In physic, Warren has saved so many patients, and so many of their fees, as made the latter for two or three years past above 7000, this year about 8000, guineas. Pott, besides satisfying an avarice of fame, might satisfy avarice, if he had it, as to pecuniary objects—for his profession is said to produce above £5000 a year. Hammond the brewer, and his partner, literally fatigued with getting money, have retired from business. Their stock and warehouses they sold for £120,000, the remainder continues in the business."

It is not often one can find amusement out of prizefighting, but, at a fight between Johnson and Ryan, the following hand-bill is said to have been stuck up on a house opposite the



pease too sea thee fite betweene the Inglishe Man an Irishe Man whiche accordinge too Accompts bee a bloudy one— there be 3 Winders in thee one paire Staires so thate you well have a fine sighte of the Comboutants—and I have a ball coney for the Ladies att a shillinge a pease. Good a coumadasions in the eatinge waye too

be paide extraye.'

We have now come to the end of the year, a time devoted especially to domestic joys, which in those days always included a game



at cards; and, if December, 1787, was, as it ought to have been, "an old-fashioned winter," there should have been skating as well.

The declaration of the poll on the question of a free library for Hammersmith has been declared. Of 14,941 voting papers issued, 4670 were for, and 2291 against, the adoption of the Act.

Madame Tussaud's well-known historical gallery of wax. figures has received two additions, which represent Jenny Lind and Sir Charles Warren.

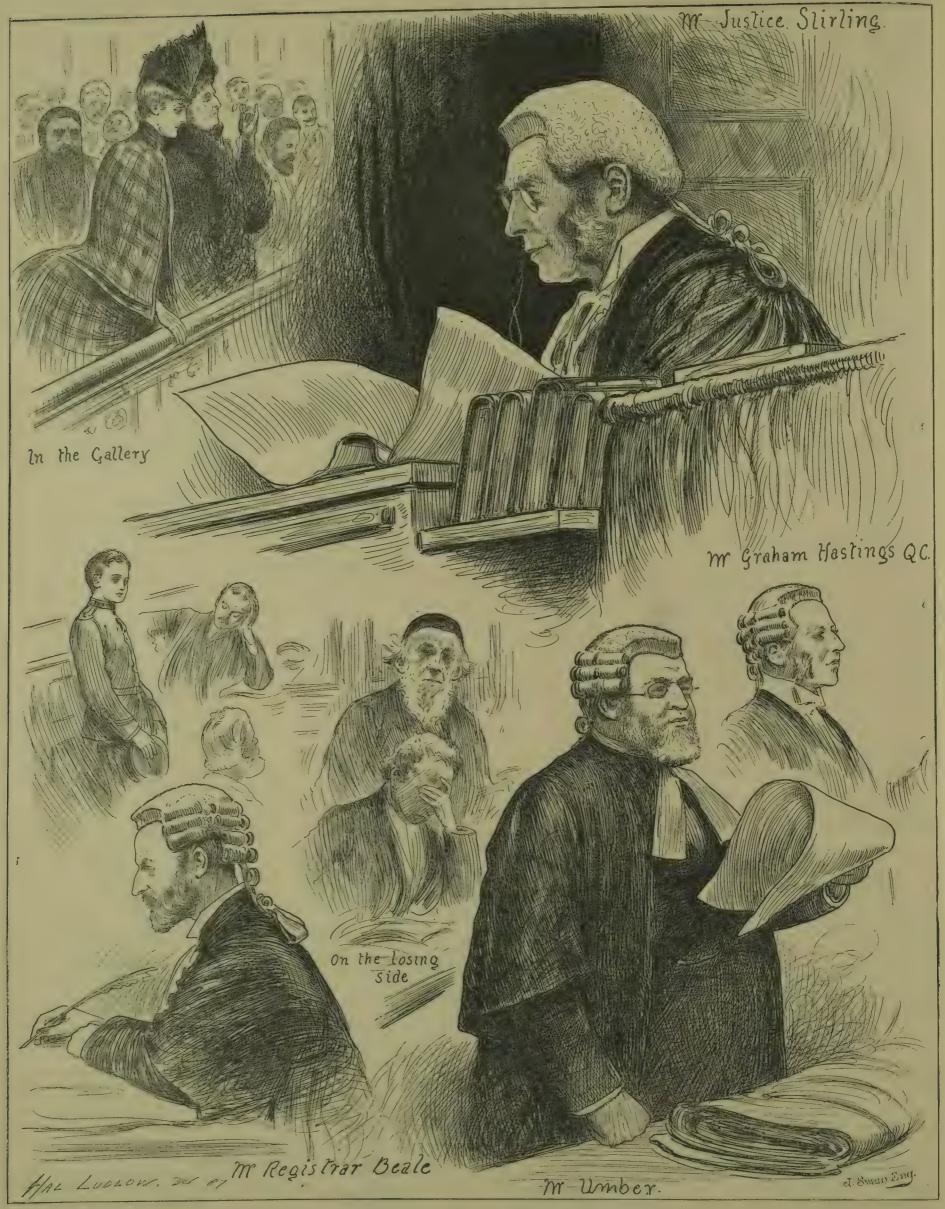
Mr. T. T. Bucknill, O.C., of the Western Circuit, has been elected a member of the Bar Committee, in succession to Mr. Justice Charles.

Mr. Charles Villiers Stanford has been elected to the Professorship of Music at Cambridge, in succession to the late Sir G. A. Macfarren.

We have had occasions in past years to speak favourably of the Diaries produced by Messrs. Smith and Co., of 109, Queen Victoria-street; and their productions for the coming year meet, it seems, every possible requirement of the kind. They are of various forms and sizes, suited for the library, the desk, and the pocket; are securely bound, some of them interleaved with blotting-paper; and all contain useful information on everyday matters. There are special diaries for housekeepers, besides washing-books for ladies and families, and many kindred publications.

A NEW TALE by WILLIAM BLACK, entitled "The Strange Adventures of a House-boat," written expressly for the "Illustrated London News," and forming a fit companion to that favourite story, "The Strange Adventures of a Phaeton," by the same Author, will be commenced Jan. 7, 1888, in the First Number of a New Volume, and continued weekly until finished.

kindred publications.

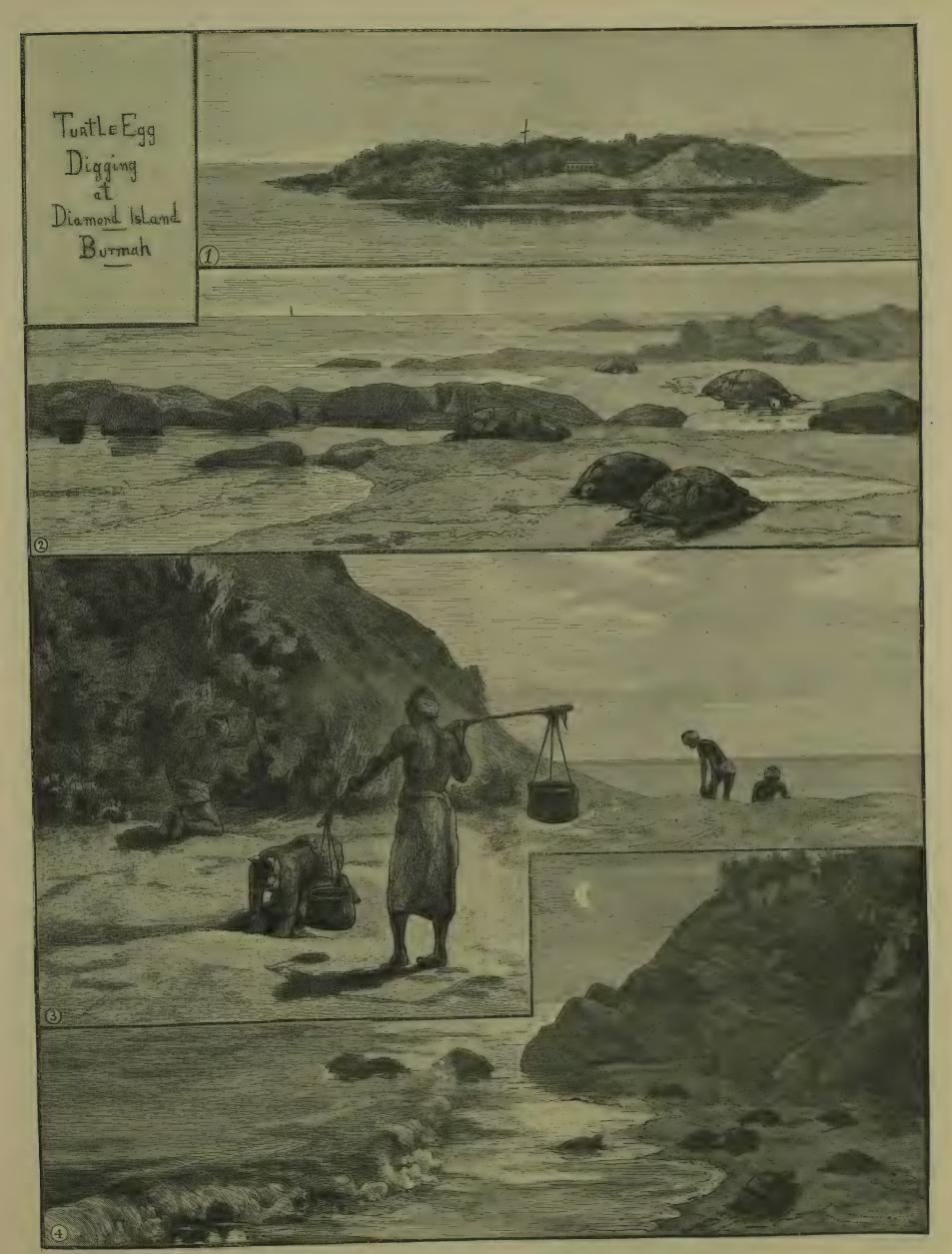


SKETCHES IN THE LAW COURTS: THE LORD CHANCELLOR'S COURT.

The Equity or Chancery side of the Royal Palace of Justice affords to an intelligent person, in the small public audience of the gallery, much curious matter of intellectual interest, though it does not exhibit the grosser humours of shuffling or dubious witnesses under the ordeal of cross-examination, or the claptrap of popular barristers endeavouring to mystify a jury. The pleadings are of a scientific form, and the points cannot be dissembled or evaded before a Judge who is master of the rules and precedents of Equity, and who is in possession of all the documentary evidence and precise written testimonies that will affect his decision. It should be understood, in general, that while the Courts of Common Law give

subsequent damages for wrongs, the Equity jurisdiction supplies a preventive and specific remedy, by a prohibitive injunction, or by compelling the actual performance of contracts. It also guards the due administration of trusts; protects infants, wards, and others incapable of asserting their legal rights; and has a good deal to say to mortgages and various assignments of charges on property. The Equity Court has power to compel the discovery of the facts by interrogating the parties, and to enforce the production of documents; and it can rectify a deed or other legal instrument, if it was vitiated by mistake, or rescind it, if obtained by fraud. Whether, in every possible case, the

result of proceedings in Equity shall prove strictly in accordance with the mere layman's notion of what he would think equitable, may be a question as delicate, in fore conscientiee, as to ask whether the verdict and judgment of a Common Law Court, or of any other "Court of Justice," invariably satisfies the ordinary sense of what might be considered just. It is always just, indeed, because it is necessary for the peace and welfare of civil society, that private claims legally disputed should be determined by a system of general rules and principles which have been settled by legislative and judicial authority; and, though "hard cases" will now and then occur, the strict interpretation of these



1. Diamond Island, off the mouth of the River of Bassein.

^{2.} Turtles among the rocks and pools on the shore.

^{3.} Digging out the turtle-eggs.4. Turtles coming from the sea to lay their eggs.

rules, without favour or even compassion, is the best security rules, without favour or even compassion, is the best security for the rights of property, both small and great. A Judge is bound to perform this duty, above all, but is not forbidden to express his displeasure, by looks, tone, and manner, if he cannot in every instance by verbai censure, at the exposure of unfairness, extreme covetousness, or harslmess, in the conduct of parties whose claim must be upheld by the Court. It often happens, in the business of the Equity Courts, that the contest is between members of the same family, or those intimately connected with each other by the marriage of near relatives, whose quarrels about bequests and legacies, contingent in is between members of the same family, or those intimately connected with each other by the marriage of near relatives, whose quarrels about bequests and legacies, contingent interests under settlements, and the execution of trust deeds, are apt to be more embittered than between total strangers. A good deal of domestic romance, extending perhaps to the lifetime of more than one generation, is mixed up with some of these affairs; and if an imaginative novelist would condescend to study in such cases the realities of English social history, the causes and effects of alienated family affections, the rivalry of brothers and sisters, the uncertainty of pecuniary expectations, the waste of fortunes and estates, the disappointment of heirs, or of the husbands of supposed heiresses, and the lifelong embarrassments by which many persons are affected from arrangements that were beyond their control, he would soon gather materials for very instructive stories. But few, probably, of the spectators, and none of the professional actors in this scene of grave argumentation, have a thought to bestow on the romantic character of the vicissitudes of private life that may be revealed in the seemingly dry statements of a Chancery suit. The Judge has to work out a scientific problem, to which the Counsel, each bearing his allotted part with honourable fidelity, contribute the aid of opposing views, supported in some degree by facts already on record, and by reasonings apparently worthy of attention. There is nobody here to be deceived, if any gentleman practising at this Bar were capable of such an attempt; and the previous investigations have been performed by a method designed to preclude any concealment of the facts. This, at least, is the ideal conception of Equity procedure, as commonly understood, whatever accidental failures or mistakes are perceived by observant men who have the opportunity of watching its operation, which is no more infallible than other human understood, whatever accidental failures or mistakes are per-ceived by observant men who have the opportunity of watching its operation, which is no more infallible than other human business dealings, in spite of integrity of purpose. A great deal of true justice is done, and much injustice is remedied, so far as possible, at far less cost, and with far more promptitude and dispatch, than in the old times when Chancery was pro-verbial for delay and uncertainty; but it is still desirable to keep out of it, and of every other form of litigation. Our Artist's Sketches of one of the Judges frequently presiding in this Court, of the Registrar, and two distinguished members Artist's Sketches of one of the Judges frequently presiding in this Court, of the Registrar, and two distinguished members of the Bar, are presented with our best respects to the learned profession, and especially to all judicial personages; while the background figures of an unhappy litigant "on the losing side," and of several attentive listeners who may be in a position to feel anxiety for the result, will perhaps be regarded with sympathy, whatever be the merits of the cause.

The official returns of the forty-four Volunteer Corps of the Metropolis show an increase over the numbers of last year.

It was resolved at the quarterly communication of the United Grand Lodge of Freemasons to vote £500 from the fund for general purposes, for the relief of the deserving poor of the metropolis. The resolution authorising the vote was moved by Mr. W. Beach, M.P., on behalf of the Prince of Wales.

The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's steamer Britannia arrived at King George's Sound. Western Australia, on Dec. 7, eight days early, having made an unusually quick run from London. This passage gives a transit from Brindisi to Australia—including detention in Egypt waiting for the mails, the détour to Ceylon and detention there for nearly thirty-six hours—of twenty-three days ten hours, and a continuous speed at sea for a distance of 8000 miles of (within continuous speed at sea for a distance of 8000 miles of (within a fraction) sixteen knots.

A WELSH COLONY IN PATAGONIA.

A WELSH COLONY IN PATAGONIA.

The United States Consul in Buenos Ayres, in his report for the past year on the Argentine Republic, refers to the explorations of Colonel Fontana, the Governor of Southern Patagonia. One expedition made by that officer was with a company of Welsh pioneers from Chupat up to the headwaters of the river of that name in the Subandean regions. During an absence of four months—during which they traversed over three thousand miles—he reports they discovered "a most magnificent country, with great lakes, rich valleys, fine pastures, dense woods, and all the elements necessary for supporting a large population, close under the Cordilleras, with passes quite accessible through to the Pacific."

Colonel Fontana says of this region:—"Who could have believed that such a paradise could have remained unknown for so many centuries? Who could have supposed that the barren wastes and stony steppes of the Patagonian seaboard were the outer margin of a land teeming with fertility and delightful watercourses near the Andine slopes?" He collected specimens of eleven kinds of timber, among which were red cedar, white and red pine, two varieties of beech, a pitch-tree (calafate), and others suitable for cabinet work. There was a profusion of cryptogams, mosses, lichens, mushrooms, and game, large and small, of great variety; and immense quantities. "In fact," says Governor Fontana, "in these regions Nature has been as exuberant and lavish as in the Misiones or the Gran Chaco," Mr. Baker adds that explorations have also been made south of the river Gallegos, and such excellent pasturage has been found along the northern shores of the Straits of Magellan that large numbers of sheep have already been sent across from the Falkland Islands. In Terra del Fuego, also, there have been several exploring expeditions, and not a little of that inhospitable wilderness is found to be made up of good pasturage and rich valleys, and already stocked with cattle by the natives. The Welsh colony at Chupat appears to be flo

The Metropolitan Board of Works has sanctioned the application of the Vestry of Hammersmith for a loan of £29,000 towards the purchase of Ravenscourt Park.

The Limerick Harbour Board has obtained a loan of £20,000 from the Board of Works, Dublin, to carry out the proposed improvements at the dock.

improvements at the dock.

The Judges of the Queen's Bench Division have chosen the following circuits for the ensuing winter assizes, viz.:—Oxford Circuit, Lord Chief Justice Coleridge and Mr. Justice A. L. Smith; Midland Circuit, Baron Pollock and Baron Huddleston; South-Eastern Circuit, Mr. Justice Denman; Home Circuit, Mr. Justice Mathew; Western Circuit, Mr. Justice Field and Mr. Justice Mathew; South Wales Circuit, Mr. Justice Stephen; North Wales Circuit, Mr. Justice Wills; Northern Circuit, Mr. Justice Cave and Mr. Justice Grantham; North-Eastern Circuit, Mr. Justice Day and Mr. Justice Charles. Both civil and criminal business will be taken at these assizes, which are expected to begin about Jan. 11.

A meeting of the Royal Botanic Society was held on

these assizes, which are expected to begin about Jan. 11.

A meeting of the Royal Botanic Society was held on Dec. 10—Mr. J. P. Gassiot, vice-president, in the chair. The secretary made some remarks upon the Quercus Coccifera, or Kermese oak, and the dye insect from which its name is derived, specimens of both being exhibited at the meeting. A common plant upon the shores of the Mediterranean, it has been, from the most ancient times, celebrated as the source of a very rich crimson dye, which, until the discovery of the cochineal insect in America, was held in high estimation and formed an important article of commerce, but is now almost entirely unknown, even in those places where it was formerly collected. Some examples of the hardening of the constitution of plants by exposure were also exhibited, suggesting the inference that plants, like animals, are capable of being acclimatised.

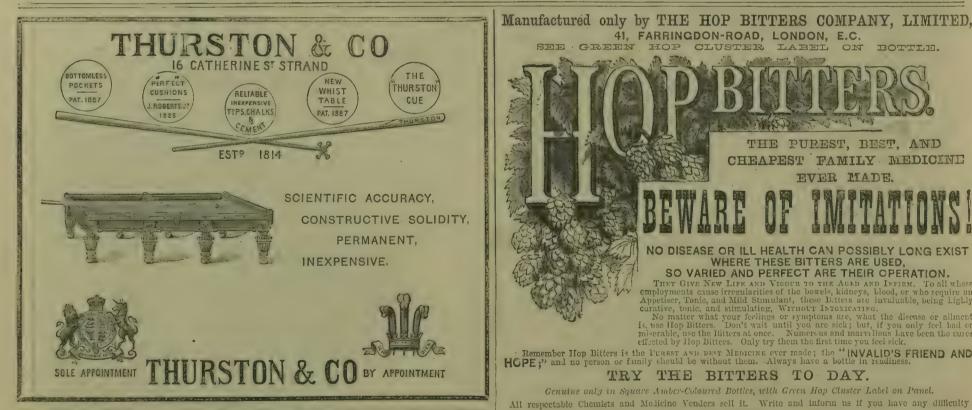
TURTLE-EGG DIGGING, DIAMOND ISLAND

TURTLE-EGG DIGGING, DIAMOND ISLAND. At the mouth of the Bassein river, which is a branch cutlet of the Irrawaddy, on the Pegu coast of Lower Burmah, are several small islands, much frequented by the turtle abounding on those shores. Diamond Island, where ships usually take uppilots to enter the port of Bassein—that town being ninety-three miles up the river—is only half a square mile in area, surrounded by reefs of rocks mostly covered at high tide, leaving a narrow strip of sand all round, the land above rising to 50 ft. elevation, with thick jungle growing over it. A pilothouse, with flag-staff, and the telegraph buildings, stand in a clearing on the east side. This island is the great resort of all the large turtle which live in those waters; and nightly, throughout the year, they come on to the narrow sand foreshore to lay their eggs. The right of collecting these eggs is sold by public auction every five years; and the present lessee pays 17,000 rapees annually to the Indian Government. The turtle are themselves protected by stringent regulations, and a person detected killing one is liable to a fine of 500 rupees. During the month of April egg-collecting is prohibited, and the eggs laid in that month have every chance of coming to maturity, and so keeping up the supply. It will surprise many readers to learn that one turtle will lay from eighty to two hundred and thirty eggs during one night, the number depending partly on the season of the year; and it is believed that the same turtle returns frequently, and will probably lay from five hundred to a thousand eggs in the year. To form an idea of the number of turtle that frequent this island, it may be mentioned that, while the contractor's rent per month, with expense of collecting, is estimated at 1500 rupees, he gets an estimated profit of 1600 rupees monthly, the selling price of the eggs being two rupees per hundred; this represents a collection of 125,000 eggs in the average lay of one turtle, requires forty-two turtle every night to visit the sands where they can lay is so limited that it is difficult to imagine what they could do if they were allowed to multiply for a twelvemonth. They come up on the night flow-tide and dig a hole in the sand, or rather work out an old hole, as the whole foreshore above high-water mark consists of old holes and intervening hillocks. When the hole is ready, the turtle lays her eggs, and scrapes the sand over them again with her flippers. The whole process occupies about two hours, and the turtle then make for the sea. It always happens that a considerable number of them do not reach the water until the reefs have become exposed by the falling tide; and though they are fair travellers on sand, they cannot get on when the path is over rock, so they have to remain on the rocks, with their noses in a pool of water, until the returning tide reaches them. In the morning, the spearman, whose duty it is to find the nests, comes round and follows each track, which is bread and distinct, until he reaches a nest. Into this nest he thrusts his spear, to a depth of two or three feet, and on its withdrawal he can at once see if the point has passed through an egg. If the nest has been used during the night, he sets up a mark there, and the diggers and carriers, coming after him, halt there to collect the eggs. The eggs are dug out by hand and thrown tegether in a heap, until the nest is cleared; they are then transferred to the basket, and are finally stored on the floor of a hut made of open hamboos. The skins of the eggs are tough, and will stand great pressure without bursting; and they will keep good about five weeks. About twice a month, they are sent away up the country in boats for sale. They are richer than hen's eggs, but make rather tough omelettes; the Burmese consume them largely. consume them largely.

A new life-boat, presented by the National Life-Foat Institution, was launched at Stornoway on Dec. 7. The boat was named the Isabella, the ceremony being performed by Lady Matheson Lady Matheson.

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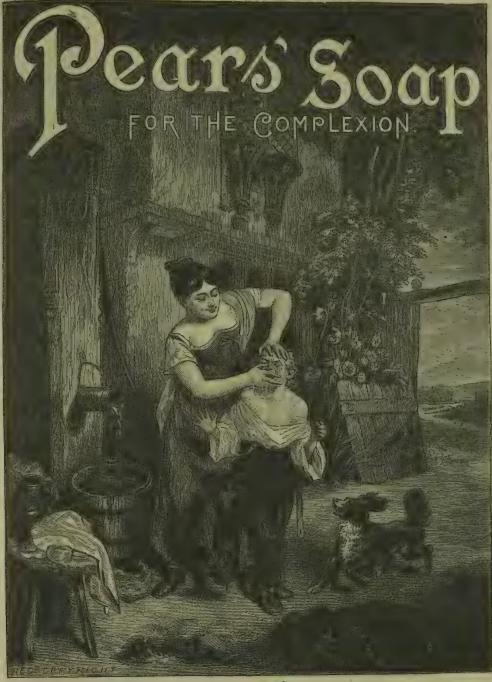
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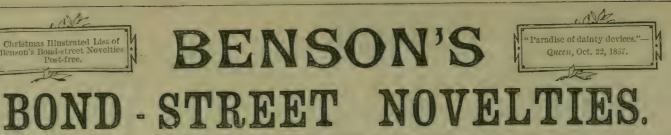


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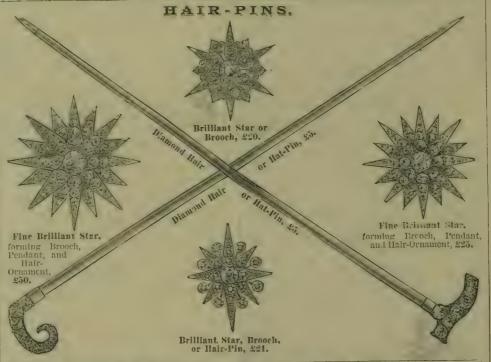
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"FROM PHARAOH TO FELLAH."

A well-known resident in Egypt, author of a treatise on Egyptian finance and of the biographical sketches of "Khedives and Pashas," Mr. C. E. Moberly Bell, has written an instructive and agreeable book, just published by Messrs. Wells Gardner, Darton, and Co., in noticing which they permit us to borrow some of the numerous and beautiful Engravings, drawn by Mr. G. Montbard, an artist needing no introduction to our own readers, and finely executed on wood by Mr. Charles Barbant. The elegant volume, in a cover of pretty and original design, is entitled, "From Pharaoh to Fellah"; but only a few chapters of its contents, dwelling on the monuments of antiquity at Memphis and Thebes, the Pyramids, the Mohammedan city of Cairo, the abode of the Israelites, and the relics of Macedonian and Roman civilisation, have the form of direct historical compilation, though much history Mohammedan city of Cairo, the abode of the Israelites, and the relics of Macedonian and Roman civilisation, have the form of direct historical compilation, though much history and archæology find their way into frequent incidental statements. A tour in Egypt, performed by "the Sketcher" and "the Scribbler," whose occasional dialogues with each other are very amusing, and conversations here or there with "the Pasha," "the Nabob," "the Patrician," or "the Professor," on topics suggested by the localities they visited, make the narrative links between pieces of graphic description, notes of antiquarian research, and comments on the past and present condition of the country. We cannot see any justification of a complaint which the Sketcher is alleged to have uttered to the Scribbler, that the book is "horribly dull"; we are confident, indeed, that its readers will not find it so: but the author, who is no "scribbler," but an able and skilful writer, being somewhat a humourist, pretends to disarm criticism, which he need not fear, by a feigned apology, and indulges another whim by putting his extremely short preface at the end of the book. Any eccentricity of literary procedure, in his judgment, is warrantable in dealing with this subject, by the old remark of Herodotus, that in Egypt all things go by contraries—which still remains true, he satirically observes, under British administration of late years in the nineteenth century, as it was in the fourth or fifth century before the Christian era. Despite the apparently chronological phrasing of his title, we learn that the "Fellah," the native labouring peasant cultivator of the soil, under a different name, is more ancient than the earliest reigning "Pharaoh;" and we are sorry to be told that little substantial improvement of the poor fellow's lot has ever taken place under any of the successive dynasties or foreign rulers in Egypt. The reader, however peasant cultivator of the son, under a different name, is more ancient than the carliest reigning "Pharaoh;" and we are sorry to be told that little substantial improvement of the poor fellow's lot has ever taken place under any of the successive dynasties or foreign rulers in Egypt. The reader, however seriously impressed with this consideration, and with the special responsibility at present imposed on the British Government, will enjoy a high intellectual pleasure in accompanying Mr. Moberly Bell and Mr. Montbard—the latter being a Frenchman of bright artistic temperament, "with Burgundy in all his veins"—on their expedition to visit some of the most famous and interesting places in the world. From Marseilles by sea to Alexandria; from that city, with its memories of the Ptolemies and of Greek cosmopolitanism, to Cairo of the Arabian Caliphs; thence to examine the Pyramids, besides inspecting the Museum at Boulak; onward to explore the site of Memphis, which was, for nearly a thousand years, the metropolis of the most ancient Pharaohs, beginning not much less, probably, than seven thousand years ago; farther up the Nile, observing many things on the banks of the great river-highway, to Karnac and Luxor, contemplating the site and the superb remains of imperial Thebes, where the great Sesostris, Rameses II., in the fifteenth century before Christ, exhibited the climax of power in the Egyptian monarchy; yet farther up the river to Assouan, with the isle and temple of Philoe, below the First Cataract; and returning to Cairo, after an excursion to the Fayoum, noticing the Canal of Joseph, ending with a detailed account of the mosques and other edifices belonging to the Mohammedan period—this course of remarkable sights, with the study of their historical associations, offers a vast amount of mental entertainment. Mr. Bell is an excellent literary guide, and Mr. Montbard is a faithful and tasteful delineator, by whose aid, in the volume before us, one may see and learn much of the Egypt of so many different past of Modern Egypt, its agricultural and commercial resources, its administrative defects, the character of its long-suffering population, and the methods and chances of improvement. The Illustrations that we have selected, with one exception, that of the mummy of Rameses II. in the Boulak Museum, are those of scenes and figures in the present condition of Egypt. In the centre of the page stands an Arabian singing-girl, with her tambourine; but there is more beauty in the face of the Coptic maiden, whose portrait is at the side. A Cairo water-seller, a workman using a lathe turned by his foot, a woman carrying a burden on her head, and with the long black "yashmak" or veil covering her face, a Mussulman fakir preaching in the street, and the head of an old negro trader from the Soudan, are sketched by Mr. Montbard with the truth and spirit we are accustomed to recognise in that Artist's drawings, to which our own Journal has been so often indebted.

The Landseer Scholarships of the Royal Academy, being £40 per annum, for two years, have been awarded—for painting, to H. J. Draper; and for sculpture, to W. Reynolds-Stephens.

A Royal Commission has been appointed to consider how the gift, out of the Civil List, of Queen's Plates may be rendered effective if bestowed directly for the encouragement of horse-

Mechanical toys are on the increase, judging from what we have recently seen at Messrs. Parkins and Gotto's, of Oxford-street. The inventive genius brought to bear upon these playthings is very great. Among their numerous toys of this kind one particularly pleased us—a kitten lying on its back playing with a ball of worsted, kicking it about quite naturally, and seemingly enjoying the fun. seemingly enjoying the fun.

At the annual distribution of prizes at the Islington School of Art, Barnsbury-street, presided over by Sir A. Rollit, M.P., Mr. Morris addressed the students on the subject of Art. He said British art was really only about a century old, Hogarth being one of the first original English artists. In only one century, however, we saw our country filled with artists. The lack of beauty in our street architecture was due to a want of training in former generations—a want which was now being supplied. To the same cause was attributable, until very lately, the ugliness of our furniture. Even in the matter of a lady's dress there was many a Duchess of the last generation who would look with envy upon the simple toilet of a lady now. Art itself was simply the interpretation of Nature, adapted to the use for which the work was required. Art would never again be a matter of tradition. The whole civilised world was now brought into such close intercommunication that no longer would a nation's peculiarities be so strongly marked in its art as formerly; but we should be much more reflective and sensible in our art than we should be if we held an isolated position. There was nothing like emulation or competition for making an artist work, and he advised the students to be diligent and persevering if they desired to succeed. lack of beauty in our street architecture was due to a want diligent and persevering if they desired to succeed.

CHESS.

CHIESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications for this department should be addressed to the Chess Editor.

W TRESHER (Wilton).—Yes, It retains its powers although practically a prisoner.
OTTO DECKELMAN.—We do not understand your question. If by moving the piece to give mate, check is uncovered, the move cannot be made. If check is only threatened on the following move, you can mate at onee.

R W S (Manchester).—We admitted your indictment last week.
NORTH-BAC.—Is it only the "latest news" that makes a chess column interesting?

W H D (Woburn).—The merit of the problem consists in the number of its variations, not in its freedom from them. There is only one solution.

DESANGRS.—Your problem is faulty, dual mates depriving it of all value for publication.

J R M ANDERSON.-The key move is obviously much too strong, and leads to no interesting defence.

interesting defence.

R FRODEN.—Very acceptable; it shall appear in an early Number.

F W B (Crouch-end).—Look through the problem again. With the published solution at hand you will discover your error.

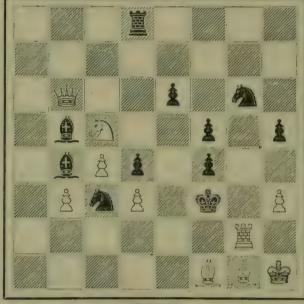
CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS NOS. 2271 and 2272 received from Hari Das Garass (Agra); of No. 2273 from A E Coldwell (Wolfville, N.S.); of No. 2276 from B H U (Satisbury), S Herbert, John G Graves (Smyrna New Chub, J R M Anderson and John Brown; of No. 2277 from J R M Anderson, A G Bacot (Club Henry G King, J D Tucker (Locals), Hugh Pearson (Bury St. Edmunds), Henry G King, J O W (E.N.), W L Martin (Commander, R.N.), Sergeant F West, and R Hind.

W Hiller. A C Horr, Edward Gardner, Ben Nevis, A Sharswood, Ernest Sharswood, S Ballen, W Wright, Edward Gardner, Ben Nevis, A Sharswood, Ernest Sharswood, S Ballen, W Wright, Edward Ben Nevis, A Sharswood, Ernest Sharswood, S Ballen, W Wright, Edward Ballen, W Respectively, T Roberts, C E P. Rev. Wangley, Ben Shadforth, C Maxted (Canterbury), A C W (Dwer) Canterbury, A C W (Dwer) Canterbury, A C W (Dwer) Canterbury, B Wooters (Gauterbury), A C W (Dwer) Canterbury, D W (Dwer) Canterbury, B W (Dwer) Canterbury, B W (Dwer) Canterbury, B (Dwer), D W (Dwer) Canterbury, B W (Dwer) Canterbury, B (Dwer), B W (Dwer) Canterbury, B (Dwer), B W (Dwer), B W

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 2277.

Any move

PROBLEM No. 2280. By J. G. CAMPBELL.



WHITE. White to play, and mate in three moves.

BRITISH CHESS ASSOCIATION.

Game played in the Masters' Tournament between Messrs. GUNSBERG and POLLOCK.

(Greco Counter Gambit.)			
WHITE (Mr. G.)	BLACK (Mr. P.)	WHITE (Mr. G.)	BLACK (Mr. P.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	22. Q to Kt 3rd	R to K sq
2. Kt to K B 3rd	P to K B 4th	23. B to Kt 5th	Q to Kt 3rd
3. P takes P	P to Q 3rd	24. P to Q R 3rd	B to R 4th
4. P to Q 4th	P to K 5th	25. B to B 4th	P to K 6th
5. Q to K 2nd	Kt to K B 3rd	Ptakes Pat once se	anna fan katton 2 76
6. Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q 4th	26. R takes P, then Q	to B 3rd + 27. B to
7, Kt to K 5th		K 3rd, B to Kt 3rd;	28. R moves, P to
Taking up a strong position and en-		Q 5th, &c.	
abling him to pro-	secute a vigorous	26. P takes P	P takes P
attack on the King's flank.		27. R takes P	P to B 4th
7.		Admitting the Knig	ht with fatal (ffect
8. P to K Kt 4th		Q to B 3rd is not too h	
9. P to Kt 5th	Castles	White answers with 2	s. R to R 4th (any
The best at Black's command, convert-		other move Black replies with It takes B),	
ing the game into an unfavourable form of a Muzio Cambit for the second player.		the game is continued, B takes Kt (ch),	
			B to Kt 3rd
10. P takes Kt		29. Kt to Kt 5th	D to Kt 3rd
	P to B4th	25. Kt to Kt oth	
	Kt to B 3rd	The exchange is now forced, and the	
13. Kt takes Kt		game is lost.	
	P to Kt 3rd	23.	Q takes Q
The merits of this move are somewhat		30. P takes Q	R to B 3rd
obscure, but it gives point and interest to the game.		31. Kt to Q 6th (ch)	
		32. B takes R	R takes P (ch)
15. P takes P		33. K to Q 2nd	P to B 5th
An admirable reply.		34. R to B sq (ch)	K to K 3rd
15.	B takes B	35. B to B 4th	R to K 5th

C to K 3rd L to K 5th C to B 4th C takes R C to K R 4th C to Q 5th 15. B takes B
16. Q to R 5th Q takes P
17. Q takes B it to B 6th
18. Q to B sq Q to B 3rd
19. It to K Ktsq (ch) K to B 2nd
20. Q to K t 2nd
21. Q to Kt 4th R to K B 4th

Game played in the Amateur Championship Tourney, between Messrs.

HEPPELL and LOCOCK.

(Bishops' Giumbit.)

WHITE (Mr. H.) BLACK (Mr. L.)

1, P to K 4th P to K 4th P to K 4th

17, B takes P WHITE (Mr. H.)
P to K 4th
P to K B 4th
B to B 4th
B to B sq
Q Kt to B srd
P to Q 4th
Kt to K B 3rd
P to K R 4th BLACK (Mr. L.) P to K 4th P to K 401 P takes P P to Q 4th Q to R 5th (ch) P to K Kt 4th B to Kt 2nd K Kt to K 2nd Q to R 4th P to K R 3rd Kt to R 7th attacking the R, and with view to the check at B 6th is much is drawn game.
Q takes B
Kt to Kt6th (ch)
Kt takes Q
B takes P
P to K B 3rd
K R to K sq
Q R to Q sq
R takes R
R to K 2nd
K to B 2nd
K to B 3rd
K to K 3rd
R to K 3rd
R to K 3rd
R to K 3rd
R to K sq.
R.

The congress of the British Chess Association, which has been brought to a conclusion, has proved from every point of view an unqualified success. The rooms were daily crowded with spectators, no hitch disturbed the arrangements for play, and the games on the whole were good, with here and there "a little bit of Morphy" to heighten popular interest. The Masters' Tournament was characterised by the usual cautiousness in the openings, the Ruy Lopez attack and the French defence being the chief favourities, the latter especially coming to the front. One or two accepted Evans' Gambit, led to lively play, and the advantage of the Scotch Gambit for the first player received further illustration at the hands of Mr. Blackburne. At the moment of going to press Mr. Gunsberg and Mr. Burn had tied for the first prize, and were to play two games more to decide the contest. A match between the Athenaeum and North London Chess Clubs, played on Dec. 1, resulted in a victory for the former by ten games to five.

A match between the Clifton and South Wales Chess Clubs took place at Cardiff on Dec, 3, resulting in a victory for the former, who scored twenty-six games to sixteen.

CHRISTMASTIDE IN THE DWELLINGS OF THE POOR.

We always think of this season of the year as a time of rejoicing for all sorts and conditions of men, and so, in truth, rejoicing for all sorts and conditions of men, and so, in truth, it should be; but those among us who are acquainted with the dire poverty existing among certain classes know how impossible rejoicing is to those whose little ones cling about them for food and warmth when there is none to give—when every effort for work has failed—when, piece by piece, every bit of furniture has been parted with to buy bread and pay rent—when Hope has gone and Despair set in. It is no wonder that the sound of Christmas bells ringing out their glad tidings fails to convey the joyful message to these poor people, whose hearts are beating so loud with misery that they are deaf to every other emotion.

Can we help this state of things? Indeed, yes; every man

every other emotion.

Can we help this state of things? Indeed, ycs; every man, woman, and child among us can help and better it; and upon our recognising this fact, and earnestly and at once setting about the work, depends the sccial and moral well-being of our people and the spread of real religion among them. It may be that many of us are not rich—nay, have scarcely enough to provide for our own small needs; but that does not exempt us from the work so pressingly demanded of us—in fact, it may be that we are the very ones who can do the most good. Money is not everything. We can sympathise, we can give a helping hand, we can in a hundred ways ease the burden of want and misery about us. It does not signify in what part of town or country we live, we can find work to do and people waiting for our help. We may be very sure that as soon as we learn to love the poor and the abandoned we shall find plenty of work for our purse, if we have one—for our head, and heart, and hands certainly.

Let these be our willing agents, and we shall learn exactly

Let these be our willing agents, and we shall learn exactly what is the right thing to do. Be it a parish, a district, or only a court or alley, the same rule holds good: that health and purity are only attainable by means of a brotherly union existing between the inhabitants—a union which causes rich and poor to stand by each other, and whose acknowledged work is the alleviation of reverty micros and origins. work is the alleviation of poverty, misery, and crime.

Need and sickness, sin and suffering, will never cease while the world remains. The poor will be always with us, affording a blessed opportunity to those who will take up the work which lies nearest to them—viz., that of modifying the need, sickness, and misery which exist in their midst, and, above all, of bringing the innocent victims of poverty into permanently better conditions. The helper and comforter will derive quite as much benefit as the assisted and the comforted. In this, as in all other circumstances, "Mercy is twice blessed. It blesses him that gives and him that takes." For the good of both, it is imperative that there should be personal communication. nim that gives and nim that takes." For the good of both, it is imperative that there should be personal communication: on the one side, that the struggle for life may be softened by love and by kindness, and not increased by envy and jealousy of those better off than themselves; and, on the other hand, that the helper may learn a lesson of self-control, self-sacrifice, patience, and endurance from the poor while busied in bestowing help and comfort bestowing help and comfort.

fice, patience, and endurance from the poor while busied in bestowing help and comfort.

Capricious almsgiving will never take the place of personal help and sympathy, because it has no power to give permanent help, neither can it free the poor from their poverty. As far as possible, relief should be accompanied by kindly personal interest. The giver should know all the circumstances of the person in need, so that when misfortune presses heavily the help may be freely given. We have only to look back to the Middle Ages, when benevolence took the form of generous almsgiving without personal knowledge, to see its effects. It was money given without sympathy, and consequently it not only failed to start the poor afresh and relieve them of their burdens, but sank them deeper into the slough of poverty, sickness, and despair. Never were there so many beggars or so many hypocrites as then, when money and a good meal could be obtained every day at the various monasteries if those who asked alms would only put on a varnish of picty to attract the benevolent; and in this art they soon became clever adepts.

To give as did the monks in those early days is not the work required of us; on the contrary, what is wanted is that every person shall do his or her best not only to preserve the people from pauperism and prevent them sinking into decay and moral misery, but to lift them out of it; to give them courage and strength to battle with the adverse circumstances, to show them that they do not stand in the world alone, neglected and despised, but that there are hands and hearts ready to prevent the fall, the despair, and the degradation which threaten them. An easy-going benevolence which gives a penny or a pound to the first beggar we meet is not

hearts ready to prevent the fall, the despair, and the degradation which threaten them. An easy-going benevolence which gives a penny or a pound to the first beggar we meet is not at all the sort of help required of us. This may bestow a passing pleasure on both giver and receiver, but can be of no permanent benefit. "We who are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves, but rather to please our neighbour for his good to edification." A following out of this principle will always direct us in our dealings with the poor.

The poor are of many classes and degrees. There are those

The poor are of many classes and degrees. There are those who are poor by their own fault, by extravagance, by drunkenness perhaps: the sorrow entailed is aggravated by this fact, not lessened. They must be reached through their children, and by kindness to them we may redeem the parents from their evil way. Again, there are parents with large young families who through sickness or misfortune have failed to get work. Let them feel they have a friend who knows of the existence of their want and misery, one who will lose no opportunity of helping them, not by pauperising them or taking from them their self-respect, but by putting them in the way of helping themselves. Whatever happens, let them feel our kindness and sympathy. Then there are the aged, who have struggled all their lives to keep their independence, and fail at last through loss of sight and utter inability to work. These will, probably, have to be sought out, for their whole life is a protest against begging. The poor are of many classes and degrees. There are those protest against begging.

A class known as poor ladies, with neither means, health, nor energy—a class who would and do starve rather than beg or make their wants known—if we should happen to know of any such this Christmas-time, without a single comfort and no companion but the memory of early happy Christmases, let us help them if we can. One more at our cheerful fireside and Christmas dinner would not take from, but increase, our

Christmas joy.

To be of real use to the poor and the forsaken we must try To be of real use to the poor and the forsaken we must try to see things from their standpoint. We must enter into their joys (if they have any), their sorrows, difficulties, and temptations, and thus the waters of kindliness will flow in many little rills, fertilising and brightening hearts which would otherwise remain parched and untouched. If each one among us would make the subject of the poor one of prayer as well as of action, many a destitute family would be lifted out of despair and better understand the loving message of "On earth peace, good-will toward men." The "Merry Christmas and happy New Year" would no longer sound a mockery in the ears of those who have known little except sorrow and in the ears of those who have known little except sorrow and deprivation, but an assurance that loving hearts remember them and desire for them God's good gifts. Be it ours to bring about this good work.

NOVELS. The Deemster, a Romance. By Hall Caine. Three vols. (Chatto and Windus).—The author of two Cumberland stories, "The Shadow of a Crime" and "A Son of Hagar," which showed great dramatic power, with vivid and picturesque description great dramatic power, with vivid and picturesque description of rustic scenery and manners in a sequestered region of the North of England, has fully won his reputation as one of the most original writers of domestic romance. Mr. Hall Caine will rank with the late Charles Reade and with Mr. Walter Besant, though his constructive skill may be less manifest than that of the former, and he lacks the genial pleasantry of the latter, in his creation of genuine types of old-fashioned country life; while the tragic intensity of sustained passions, and the interest, painful though it must be, of their working through fatal circumstances to a fearful catastrophe, fascinates the mind like the rathering and bursting of a storm. country life; while the tragic intensity of sustained passions, and the interest, painful though it must be, of their working through fatal circumstances to a fearful catastrophe, fascinates the mind like the gathering and bursting of a storm. Many persons who are not acquainted with the singular constitution and social condition of the Isle of Man will probably not be aware that the "Deemster," of whom there are now two, is the legally appointed Judge, an office of extreme antiquity which was formerly not always held by a professional lawyer. A slight knowledge also of the history of that island, in the saventeenth and eighteenth centuries, may help us to realise the peculiar civil and social authority then exercised by the Bishop, who had a criminal jurisdiction, as feudal Baron, independent of that of the Deemster, besides the prerogative of inflicting imprisonment under ecclesiastical censures. These institutions, which were actually in force long after the year 1705, the period at which Mr. Hall Caine's story attains its climax, should be kept in mind by his readers, who may be assured, we believe, of the strict accuracy of the details that he sets forth, with regard to local customs and procedure. We are certainly able to testify to the minute correctness of his topography, which will be recognised by every visitor who has explored the western shores of the island, from Port St. Mary and Port Erin northward; Peel harbour, with St. Patrick's isle and its ruined Castle and Cathedral; Kirk Michael, Bishop's Court, and Orrisdale Head: and the Curragh, across the island between Ballaugh and Ramsey, with Sulby Glen, and the mountain recesses around Snaefell. The character of the people, too, is well portrayed, as a mixture of the Norse and Celtic races, Protestants in religion and profoundly devout, but cherishing various heathen superstitions, and in that age impressed with a rather gloomy sedateness by the severity of their condition, with a scanty husbandry and precarious fishery, isolated from the rest of t elf-inspired and self-actuated characters in modern fiction he is a very bad man, greedy, unjust, tyrannical, licentious, and cruel, a hard, harsh egotist, scoffing at religion and morality, but sometimes checked by dread of omens, spells, and cursos, and lies under a terrible curse, which a wronged woman has laid on him and his house. He has a son, totally unlike him, the Rev. Ewan Mylrea, affectionate, chivalrous, faithful, and pure in heart; and a daughter, Mona, who is a young woman of noble disposition. The Deemster is a widower, and woman of noble disposition. The Deemster is a widower, and so is his brother, the Bishop; their wives have died in child-birth, and Ewan Mylrea, when he marries and has a child born to him, loses his wife in the same way, all being apparently under the curse above mentioned. As for the character of Bishop Mylrea, a very good man, but not a mere formal contrast to that of the Deemster, it is equally original, vitally natural, and unique in conception; not a colour-less composition of abstract Christian virtues and graces in a clergyman's attire, but a very living, sorely tried, heroic, virtuous, and ever amiable man, the truest gentleman, erring once through parental affection, then divinely exalted, in a clergyman's attire, but a very living, sorely tried, heroic, virtuous, and ever amiable man, the truest gentleman, erring once through parental affection, then divinely exalted, the most benevolent pastor, the grandest example of fidelity to official rule and public duty, a servant of God reminding us of the saintly Bishop Wilson, who once dwelt in the Isle of Man. Bishop Mylrea has one son, Daniel, who stands as the third great figure in this story: a robust, gay, wild, liberty-loving, pleasure-loving, reckless fellow, in his youthful strength addicted to low company and to occasional intemperance, but with a huge open heart, the popular leader and idd of daring free spirits, ardently yet humbly adoring his cousin Mona. These striking unlikenesses of character between the different members of the Mylrea family are probably traced to indirect heredity from ancestors of whom there is some preceding account. The author seems inclined to that philosophy, in our opinion very questionable doctrine, but lending to modern romance the imposing idea of Necessity. equivalent to that of Fate in the Greek tragedians, by which all human actions seem the inevitable result of a complexity of individual predispositions, and of the combination of circumstances, determining motives and conduct at the moment. We do not think he has fairly made out the application of this melancholy view of life in the case of Ewan Mylrea. Allowing for the innate tendency in a man partly of Norse blood to seek vengeance for homicide, and admitting that a Christian clergyman, in a rude age and country, might possibly forget his calling so far as to fight a duel with the purpose of killing an enemy whom he supposed to be extremely wicked, the sudden conversion of the pious and generous Ewan into an intending murderer—at first meaning to slay Dan with a hatchet unawares—is a gross departure from consistency of character. Their subsequent conflict with daggers, the two men being fastened together with interlaced belts, on the edge of the cliff, i murderer; for, when Ewan drops his dagger, Dan severs the belt to stop the fight, and Ewan accidentally falls over the precipice. We do not understand, therefore, why Dan, who never hated his cousin or wished to take his life, though he acted criminally in consenting to fight the duel, should for ever afterwards bear the remorse of an actual murderer, or why he should not have pleaded this extenuation of his guilt. The fury of Ewan is ascribed to his being led to believe that his sister Mona had been seduced and dishonoured; but it was aggravated by Dan's repeated insults and injuries to himself, aggravated by Dan's repeated insults and injuries to himself, and by his indignation at Dan's other misconduct, from which the beloved Bishop was the chief sufferer; and it is incredible that these mixed motives could impel a true Christian minister to a savage bloodthirsty attempt. Passing over these weakly violent parts of the story, which are the more revolting since Dan had lived with his cousins, under the Bishop's fatherly love of them all, as if they were his own brother and sister, we admire the sequel—the stern repentance of Dan, his humiliation before Mona, and his noble surrender of himself to justice; the patient heroism and martyrdom of his whole to justice; the patient heroism and martyrdom of his whole bearing as a voluntary prisoner, a condemned convict, a lonely outcast sentenced to perpetual solitude on the rocks of Calf Sound; above all, his gradual, resolute, persistent self-training, in that forlorn situation, to the virtues of humanity, followed

after seven years by a mission to aid his perishing countrymen in the season of pestilence. The latter passages of his life, written with Defoe-like simplicity in his artless journal, have written with Deroe-like simplicity in his artiess journal, have an essential sublimity more impressive than anything in Victor Hugo; the figure of Dan grows Titanic, and his attitude between heaven and earth, a man cut off from mankind, hopeless of escape, resigned to await the unknown future after death, faintly trusting the Divine mercy that he has forfeited, is profoundly affecting. But it is the Bishop, after all, whose brautiful human and Christian character, with its engaging human weaknesses and its finally triumphant strength, wins the sympathy of the reader; while the death of the broken-down "Deemster" is not without an edifying

The Gaverocks: A Tale of the Cornish Coast. By the Author of "John Herring," "Mehalah," &c. Three vols. (Smith, Elder, and Co.).—The merit of this popular author's novels especially consists in the firmly-drawn lines of a defined plot, Elder, and Co.).—The merit of this popular author's novels especially consists in the firmly-drawn lines of a defined plot, and in the subordination of the incidents, and of all the minor actions, to the practical main business of the story, with no episodes to distract the attention. This desirable quality of fiction is well exemplified in "The Gaverocks," who are the family of a not very wealthy Squire, Mr. Hender Gaverock, dwelling in modest simplicity at Towan, on the shore of the Bristol Channel opening to the Atlantic. He has two sons, the elder, Gerans, of an amiable, frank, and generous disposition; the younger, Constantine, idle, selfish, and unprincipled. These two sons have lost their mother, and the house is dull. In a neighbouring village lives a surgeon, Dennis Penhalligan, clever, poor, ambitious, and unhappily capable of a certain amount of wickedness, being of an envious and malicious temper, and being, in course of time, enslaved by a wrongful passion for another man's wife. Penhalligan has a sister, Loveday, who is the innocent suffering heroine of the story. Constantine Gaverock wins her affections, and they contract a private marriage, which greatly displeases his father, who insists on its being kept secret, and to this Loveday consents, for her husband's sake, being led to believe that it will be only for a short time. But it is not a long time before the accidental upsetting of a yacht causes a general rumour that Constantine is drowned. He saves his life, but having already become tired of marriage, and having some outlook to a freer life of enjoyment in the world, he leaves it to be supposed that he is dead, and goes away, taking the name of Mr. John Rock. In the meantime, his elder brother, heir to the moderate estate, has married a very pretty coquette, Rose, a spoiled young lady, whom he brings to live with him in his father's house. The old Squire, a man of no refinement or sensibility and rather a domestic tyrant, rules his family with a rod of iron, treats Gerans as a fool and Ro wishes and tastes, while her husband, bred in deferential obedience to his father, does not protect her so readily as he ought. Mrs. Gerans Gaverock, or Rose, as she is always called, soon resents her husband's apparent want of courage in her defence, ceases to love him, behaves to him with some insolence, and revenges herself by openly flirting with Dennis Penhalligan. Her beauty, and the show of encouragement with which she meets his admiration, have a fatal effect on him, though on her side there is no serious intention to commit herself in a disgraceful way. Gerans is quite unsuspicious, and entertains a sincere friendship for Dennis, who has once saved his life by catching at a rope which broke loose with Gerans hanging over a cliff. After a period of supposed but unacknowledged widowhood, Loveday, who is much distressed by her brother's conduct towards Mr. Gerans Gaverock's wife, and by the state of his mind regarding her, determines to leave him, and to find a situation as lady-companion. Having advertised for this purpose, she obtains an engagement in the house of Mr. Paul Featherston, of Marsland, an estimable gentleman, of studious habits and of quaint, old-fashioned manners, an old bachelor residing with his sister Juliot, Mrs. Rock, whose husband is abroad, and who has an infant child. The reader of this notice will at once perceive, but in the novel it is discovered only after a time, that the absent "Mr. Rock," is Constantine Gaverock, who has perpetrated the crime of bigamy. Loveday, before she makes this discovery, and while believing herself to be free, has received from Paul Featherston an offer of marriage, which she has declined with frank expressions of her regard and gratitude for his kindness and delicate behaviour towards her. has received from Paul Featherston an offer of marriage, which she has declined with frank expressions of her regard and gratitude for his kindness and delicate behaviour towards her. She has, thereupon, of course given up her situation, and is preparing to quit his house when Constantine unexpectedly arrives. There is an interview between the false-hearted husband and his deserted first wife, unknown to the others; and Loveday, for the sake of Juliot, resolves still to keep her own marriage secret, as she would never live with Constantine again. The passages relating her conflict of emotions, her hasty flight from Marsland, walking over the moor where she loses her path and is exposed to a storm, in great danger of perishing, have the tone of adventurous romance. Constantine, being desperately in need of money, and quarrelling with Paul Featherston, who becomes aware of his infamous conduct, returns to his father's house and shows and quarrelling with Paul Featherston, who becomes aware of his infamous conduct, returns to his father's house and shows himself alive, concealing much of his doings. He demands a certain sum, with which he proposes to emigrate to the West Indies; when it is refused, he steals it from his father's desk, and prepares to go off in a boat to the nearest seaport, but has to wait for the tide, and hides himself in a cave. On the same day, Gerans has had a conversation with Dennis Penhalligan. day, Gerans has had a conversation with Dennis Penhalligan, whom he finds in a mad and desperate mood, and who, hating Gerans as the husband of Rose, is ready to kill him at the next meeting. A few hours later, Dennis, who carries a pistol, enters the cave, finds Constantine, mistakes him for his brother, and shoots him dead. Gerans is missing for a little while, and Dennis runs about wildly, meeting Rose and telling her that Gerans is dead; she thinks he has murdered her husband, and repels him with horror. He goes away and shoots himself; but Gerans comes safe home, and he and Rose love each other more and more for ever. We prefer a story without any murder, but now the murder is out; and if we add that the murder, but now the murder is out; and if we add that the Squire, in his old age, turns kind and reasonable, that the remaining Gaverocks are happy, and that the excellent Paul Featherston gets Loveday for his wife, it will be a tolerably pleasant conclusion.

A Prince of the Blood. By James Payn. Three vols (Ward and Downey).—This lively and bustling romantic extrava-ganza, revelling in audacious improbabilities and freaks of bewildering fancy, is not the least diverting production of a dextrous novelist, who covers the loose joints of his narrative dextrous novelist, who covers the loose joints of his narrative with a cheery running commentary, abounding in small jokes of fair quality and shrewd remarks on the oddities of mankind. Any visitor to the Inventions Exhibition at South Kensington might have observed two young persons apparently fond of each other, and apparently wishing that they had some money, or that he, a briefless barrister, had some professional prospects which would allow them to get a some they had some money, or that he, a briefless barrister, had some professional prospects which would allow them to get married. The young lady might be supposed to indulge in a day-dream, and to have a vision of a fairy godmother, who should being wise, not bestow upon her a real fortune, which would make her Arthur a mere idler for life, but give her a written story of what happened to a certain heiress fifty years ago. She is

to put herself in this situation, and to undergo these adventures:—I am, she will say to herself, not Miss Cicely Forester, now living in 1885, but Miss Edith Norbury, of the date 1835, and I am nineteen, heiress to my late father's money, but the orphan ward of a cruel uncle, who is an influential man of the old East India Company, and forbids we to leave the result of the company and forbids. the date 1835, and I am nineteen, heiress to my late father's money, but the orphan ward of a cruel uncle, who is an influential man of the old East India Company, and forbids me to love Charley Layton, a barrister of slender expectations like my clever and delightful Arthur. My uncle goes to India for some official business, and insists on carrying me there with him to be out of Charley's way, accompanied by his daughter, my cousin Eleanor, who is very wicked and hates both me and Charley, and by our maiden aunt, who is kind but weak. At Portsmouth, on the eve of our embarkation, Charley, who has come down from London in disguise, meets me alone on Southsea Common, and tells me that he intends to follow me to Calcutta, having got an errand of law business in India, so that we hope to see each other again. We go on board the ship, and are well out at sea, when my Charley turns up as a fellow -passenger, to my great joy, but to the rage and fury of my tyrannical uncle, who has, with the assistance of the base Eleanor, actually stolen from me Charley's love -letters while I was asleep in the cabin. Charley bravely defies my uncle, having detected a series of frauds by which my uncle has misappropriated ever so much of my money, left in his charge as guardian to his niece. Then my uncle, like the very bad man he is, begins to conspire with Mr. Bates, the third mate, who employs Murdoch and Brownrigg, two of the worst men in the crew, to get rid of Charley at the Cape. Our ship puts in there, at Simon's Bay, and the passengers go ashore, where a plot is laid to kill Charley; but he shoots the assassins—Brownrigg and a Hottentot—and we continue the voyage. Immediately after leaving the Cape, there is a dreadful storm for a whole fortnight; and one day, when my uncle and Cousin Eleanor are in the roundhouse on deck, it is swept away by a terrific wave, and they are both drowned, for which I cannot pretend to be very sorry. But I am in despair for Charley, who leapt overboard to sove me, thinking it was I, and not Ele was uninhabited; but there are two other islands within sight: Breda, the abode of a gentle race under their King Taril; and Amrac, where the people are fierce savages, hostile to those of Breda. Our good Captain and his officers, with the loyal sailors, took care of us two ladies, Aunt Sophy and me, and made us comfortable in a sheltered hut on the beach. A bright little midshipman, Lewis Conolly, was very attentive and amusing to us. There came a fleet of canoes, bringing Prince Tarilam, son of the King of Breda, one of the handsomest, most intelligent, most generous and amiable of Nature's young gentlemen, who quickly learnt to converse with us in English, and became our intimate friend. This real "Prince of the Blood" of course became my humble admirer; and, one day when I was bathing, he saved my life by killing a shark. He was very brave, and rendered much useful service to our Captain; he slew the men of Amrac who tried to carry me off the island, and I nursed him when they wounded him with a poisoned arrow from a blow-pipe. He punished Bates for an insult by holding him over a precipice and threatening to hurl him down. He went over to Amrac, with his own native warriors, allied with some of our sailors bearing muskets, and defeated that wicked nation; but our first Lieutenant, Mr. Redmayne, who also loved me, was unfortunately killed. So it came to pass that I, Edith Norbury, believing that poor Charley was drowned, at length consented to marry this noble Prince of the Royal blood of Breda. Now, a wonderful thing happened, to enable us all to escape from that remote and unknown island: a derelict ship, with no men on board, came drifting past, and drowned, at length consented to marry this noble Prince of the Royal blood of Breda. Now, a wonderful thing happened, to enable us all to escape from that remote and unknown island: a derelict ship, with no men on board, came drifting past, and our sailors found her quite fit for the voyage home to England. The Captain had been obliged to put Murdoch to death for mutiny and murder. We got safe home, taking Prince Tarilam with us to see England; but Mr. Bates laid a false information against the Captain, and had him tried for the murder of that wretch Murdoch. I was very anxious about the trial in London. One of the counsel for the Captain was a Mr. Baring, who cross-examined Bates severely in the witness-box, asking him questions about the former passenger, Mr. Charles Layton, the conspiracy at the Cape, and the cutting of a rope that poor Charley grasped when he had jumped into the sea. Then Mr. Baring pulled off his wig and showed that he was Charley, who had been picked up and saved alive by another ship. Imagine my situation, with two lovers, dear old Charley and the sweet, good, noble Prince, both of whom I had promised to marry! But Tarilam, like a true gentleman, instantly withdrew, leaving England next day for his home in the Indian Ocean. So Charley and I were married; he became a distinguished Judge, was knighted, and, dying after many happy years, left me, Lady Layton, your fairy godmother, who might have been a Princess. I have told you my own story, Cicely Forester, and you may let Arthur read it. He shall not go to India, but shall get a revising barristership, and you shall be his wife, with £500 a year from me, and I shall leave you my fortune. This is the marvellous story which Mr. James Payn has invented for the gratification and instruction of any young lady who wishes that she were rich enough to wed the man of her choice. It is "such stuff as dreams are made of," but its perusal will not be "rounded with a sleep."

The Lady Mayoress (Mrs. De Keyser) will give a juvenile fancy dress ball at the Mansion House on Jan. 11.

Mr. John Gosnell, of London and Paris, famed for his perfumes, has produced a delicious cherry-blossom scent, in three forms—as an extract, a powder, and a soap perfumed with it.

The Lords of the Admiralty, who are Lords of the manor of Alston, Cumberland, and the chief landowners in the district, have returned their agricultural tenants 15 per cent of their Martinmas rents.

Mr. Cremer, junior, of Regent-street, besides his Christmas toys, treated of in our last Number, issues for the forthcoming festive season a number of crackers, inclosed in ornamental boxes, and presenting a very gay appearance, which will doubtless cause much merriment and admiration when exploded.

Owing to the falling off in their revenues by reason of the depression in agriculture, the Dean and Chapter of Peterborough have reduced the salaries of the cathedral officials. The reduction is at the rate of 10 per cent, and applies to all the officials, from the minor canons down to the vergers. The salaries of the Dean and the Canons had been reduced.

The great Kentish show of fat stock opened on Dec. 9, in the Agricultural Hall, Canterbury, when all the leading breeders of cattle in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and other counties were represented. Compared with former years, the exhibition was not so strong numerically; but in point of quality it exceeded any that had been held for several years.



A VISIT TO THE HAREM IN MOROCCO.

DRAWN MY MR. R. CATON WOODVILLE, OUR SPECIAL ARTEST LATE WHILE HEITERS MESSION TO THE SILTAN OF MOROCCO.

A VISIT TO THE HAREM IN MOROCCO.

A VISIT TO THE HAREM IN MOROCCO.

A series of Illustrations of Morocco, drawn by our Special Artist, Mr. R. C. Woodville, who accompanied the British Mission to the Court of Sultan Mulai Hassan, appeared, with a narrative and descriptive account written by Mr. Walter B. Harris, in several Numbers of the Illustrated London News, from Aug. 27 to Oct. 8. It was mentioned that English ladies of the party had an opportunity of visiting the Harem, or apartments of the women, in the Sultan's Palace; and they furnished our Artist with the means of producing the Illustration now published. The gentlemen with the British Mission, though courteously and hospitably entertained by the Sultan, were, of coarse, denied by Mussulman laws and customs any chance of making acquaintance with the ladies of his Majesty's family. Mr. Walter Harris, indeed, was obliged to remark, in speaking of the Sultan: "Though we can gather pretty much what kind of a life he leads, it is only very seldom that we can hear anything of the life led by his wives, except that it must be a tragic one; as the favourite, for the time being, lolls on cushions of velvet and gold, in dimly lit rooms full of the odours of incense and flowers, and attended by slaves, any one of whom, should she find favour in the sight of her lord and master, would usurp the place of the Sultana; and no doubt this is often the case."

In another paper, with which the same writer has supplied us, he descants more largely, as follows, on the general condition of women in Morocco:

"There is, I think I am justified in saying, no other country in the world in which to such an extent the face constitutes the fortune; for should it be reported that in some village there is a handsome girl, the Basha swoops down, and bundles her into his harem; or she may even be honoured sufficiently to be sent to the Palace at Fez, or at Morocco, to please the fancies of a Sultan; and then her free country life is changed to one of imprisonment; for when the fatal door closes upon her, she is lost t

baths on the appointed day in each week, she used the opportunity of leaving the harem to pay sundry visits to gentlemen of her acquaintance. The same Governor used to beat his wife whenever a child was born, because they were all girls.

"The women are married absurdly young, and become mothers about the age when an English child is exchanging the life of the nursery for that of the schoolroom. The weddings are tiring processes, and seem to last over any period, from a day to a year or two. The bride's people entertain all their female friends at the bride's house, while at the bridegroom's all his friends collect and drink sweet green tea, fragrant with mint and spices, to the detestable noise of half a dozen frantic musicians. Finally the day arrives for the wedding itself, and the bride, decked in fine raiment, is carried to the bridegroom's house, inclosed in a square box, on muleback, where, after a pretended struggle, she is left.

"Though the number of wives is limited to four by the Koran, a harem may contain almost any number, and it is

Koran, a harem may contain almost any number, and it is said that the Sultan's ladies number nearly five thousand, some of whom are English. What nurseries his palaces must possess! Another great man, the Shereef of Wazan, the head of the Mohammedan religion in Africa, has married an English lady, having previously, of course, divorced his other

wives. Morocco is an excellent country for separations, and one can be divorced several times over for eighteenpence; so, naturally, they are very common.

"There is one institution that we might admirably borrow, and introduce into England, and that is the punishment of ladies who talk scandal by rubbing cayenne pepper into their lips. The Moorish ideas of beauty and ours are very far separated, for while we admire a slight figure and a rather pointed face, the Moor does just the contrary. Should one ask a young Moor what kind of a wife he would like to have, he will answer, in the poetical language of the country, 'A wife with eyes like the gazelle, a face like the full moon, and a figure like the base of the Atlas mountains.'

"European ladies are often invited to visit the harems of

"European ladies are often invited to visit the harems of the rich Moors, and I have been told by those who have done so that nothing astonishes the inmates so much as when the visitor removes her gloves. Apparently she removes a thick dark skin from her hands, which she is able to replace at will."

The Parcels Post is extended to Beyrout, by way of Port

There was a reception at the Dutch Club, Regent-street, on Saturday night, Dec. 10, in honour of the Lord Mayor of London, the Belgian Minister, and the leading members of the Belgian colony in London.

The Hungarian Jockey Club has founded a new International Prize for three-year-olds and upwards. The first prize is 30,000 florins; the second, 5000 florins; the third, 3000 florins; with 1000 florins for the trainer of the winner. This prize will be run for for the first time at the August Meeting in Buda-Pesth. Distance, 1800 mètres. Entries for England up to March I. up to March 1.

An amateur dramatic performance will be given at Terry's An amateur dramatic performance will be given at Terry's Theatre on Monday afternoon, Dec. 19, on behalf of the fund for raising new head-quarters for the Volunteer Medical Staff Corps. The plays to be performed are "Betsy," by F. C. Burnand, and "Bubbles," by C. S. Fawcett. On the evening of the same day a Cinderella dance will be given by the officers and members of this corps at the Chelsea Townhall.

members of this corps at the Chelsea Townhall.

Sir W. H. Dyke, Vice-President of the Council on Education, visited Bradford, on Dec. 10, on a tour of inquiry connected with the proposed Government Technical Education Bill, and attended a conference at the Bradford Technical College. The conference recommended that technical training should be limited to youths of special ability, otherwise the system would be burdensome to the ratepayers and comparatively useless. Sir William promised that their suggestions should be entertained.

An interesting event took place recently in the ancient borough of Devizes, when the portrait of the Queen, painted by Mr. Henry Grant, and presented to the town by the Mayor (Alderman Thomas Chandler), as a memento of the Jubilee, was publicly unveiled in the Assembly Room of the Townhall, was publicly unveiled in the Assembly Room of the Townhall, in the presence of a representative gathering of the inhabitants. The painting is a whole-length, life-size portrait of her Majesty in her robes, as she appears on State occasions, the conception of the artist being that she is emerging from the robing-room in the House of Lords. The artist has been very happy in conveying into the portrait that queenly dignity which her Majesty graciously blends with true womanly feeling; and the painting, like all the productions of this talented artist, shows high finish and conscientious work throughout. THE PEARL FISHERIES OF MADRAS.

THE PEARL FISHERIES OF MADRAS.

The "Memorial Volume" of the Jubilee commemoration in the Madras Presidency contains a vast amount of interesting and valuable information about Madras. Mr. H. S. Thomas, of the Civil Service, describes the pearl fisheries, which have lately assumed a new phase both in Madras and Ceylon. The fisheries are situated at Tuticorin, on the Gulf of Mannar, between Ceylon and India; those on the northern banks being worked by the Government of Madras, those on the south by Ceylon. In the days of Marco Polo, these fisheries enriched the Kings of Ceylon. In 1857, and again in 1884, investigation; with a view to reviving the fisheries were made, with the practical result that there is promise of a most extensive fishery in 1888 or 1889, for the pearl-oysters in a healthy state cover an area of coral reef five miles long and one-and-a-half to two miles wide, and so thick are they that they are clustered together, in some places, one over another, knee-deep, and experiments show from 600 to 700 oysters a square yard. Improvements have also been made in the mode of fishing. Hitherto, pearl oysters were brought up from the bottom of the sea as in the days of of Marco Polo. The divers descend with the aid of a large stone hitched to one toe, and without any diving-dress. In eight or nine fathoms of water the stay is usually less than a minute, and the few pearl-oysters hurriedly picked up are thrown into a small net attached to the diver. Experi-In eight or nine fathoms of water the stay is usually less than a minute, and the few pearl-oysters hurriedly picked up are thrown into a small net attached to the diver. Experiments are now being made to meet the practical difficulties surrounding systematic pearl-fishing on the banks, such as the prevention of theft, the maintenance of order among the large number of divers, and the provision of suitable boats and gear in sufficient numbers to complete the fishery within the short time the weather allows it to be carried on. The Ceylon side of the gulf, being more sheltered from currents, is preferred by the oysters; but Madras has the advantage of having on her side the "holy shell," called chank, the turbinella pyrum of naturalists, the collection of which has produced a steady annual revenue, which now amounts to about 25,000 rs. It is annual revenue, which now amounts to about 25,000 rs. It is calculated that in 1888 the Indian banks will contain 900 millions and the Ceylon banks 200 millions of oysters.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Marchioness of Londonderry returned on Dec. 9 to the Viceregal Lodge, Dublin, from Baronscourt, where they had been the guests of the Duke and Duchess of Abercorn.

The decoration and diploma of the Legion of Honour have been awarded by the French Government to Mr. James Kendal, of the firm of Kendal and Dent, watchmakers, 106, Cheapside, London. This firm was also fortunate in receiving the gold medal at the Paris Exhibition.

With the Gazette of Dec. 9 was published an appendix and two sheets containing illustrations of the several marks which the Assay Offices of the kingdom are henceforth to place on home-made and foreign watch-cases brought to them to be

By the directions of Cardinal Manning, a circular letter appealing for alms on behalf of the poor was on Sunday, Dec. 11, read in all the Catholic churches of the archdiocese of Westminster, and collections for the same purpose were made at the different services.

A terrible storm visited Lerwick and the coasts of the northern point of Great Britain on Friday night, Dec. 9, causing lamentable loss of life from a fleet of open fishing-boats which were out from Orkney and Shetland. Much damage and some loss of life were also caused on land.

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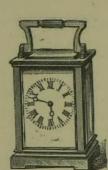
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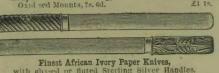




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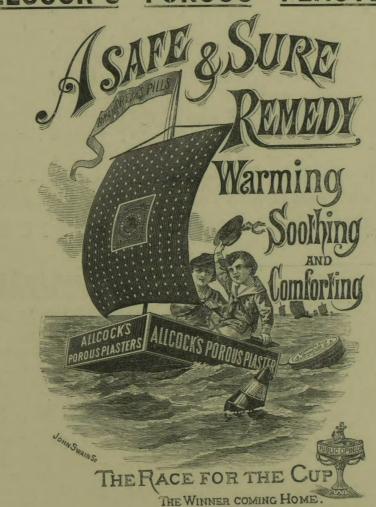
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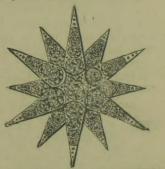
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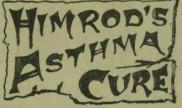
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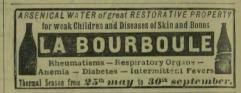
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